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Hot shot Shamrock girls pull away to beat Edwardsburg

Sports, B1

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Whirlpool showcases Tech Center

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

Mike Farrington, Whirlpool director of engineering for refrigeration in North America, talks on Friday about many of the features of the newly renovated Whirlpool Benton Harbor Technology Center.

Benton Harbor building was formerly known as Plant 7

JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — Whirlpool Corp.'s new Benton Harbor Technology Center is a testament to the company's values and commitment to its employees and to the community, Chairman and CEO Jeff Fettig said Friday.

"You've heard it said that people are your greatest asset. At Whirlpool we not only say that, we believe it. Investing in our people and the facilities in which they work has paid off tremendously."

Fettig's comments came during a ceremony marking the official opening of the Benton Harbor Technology Center at 151 N. Riverview Drive, Benton Harbor. The company announced in 2012 that it would transform the shuttered building formerly known as Plant 7 into a new refrigeration technology center.

Mike Farrington, Whirlpool's director of engineering for refrigeration in North America, led a media tour of the 150,000-square-foot building Friday, showing off work stations, collaboration space, and a cozy Mezzanine with booths, tables and cubby holes for impromptu meetings during lunch. He said 233 people are working at the new center. Whirlpool spokeswoman Deb O'Connor said the $18.6 million renovation resulted in 180 new jobs.

Farrington said that in addition to individual work spaces, the building has 32 huddle rooms and 15 conference rooms where small or large groups of workers can gather. Open work spaces with a place to stand up and work if they so choose results in fewer emails, phone calls and meetings among workers. Large open spaces and natural lighting create a bright, airy feel.

The new building also features a state-of-the-art lab where refrigerators are tested for sound levels and temperature swings. Chambers that hold different environments allow refrigerators to be tested in various conditions. For example, a chamber kept at 90 degrees with 85 percent humidity would mimic conditions in Florida, Farrington said, while another chamber set at 110 degrees with low humidity would mimic conditions in Nevada.

Fettig also announced Friday that Whirlpool will break ground early in 2015 on the third and final phase of its Riverview campus and continue renovations on the company's global headquarters building on M-63. When all the projects are complete, the company will have invested $155 million in the Twin Cities area from 2012 to 2016, he said.

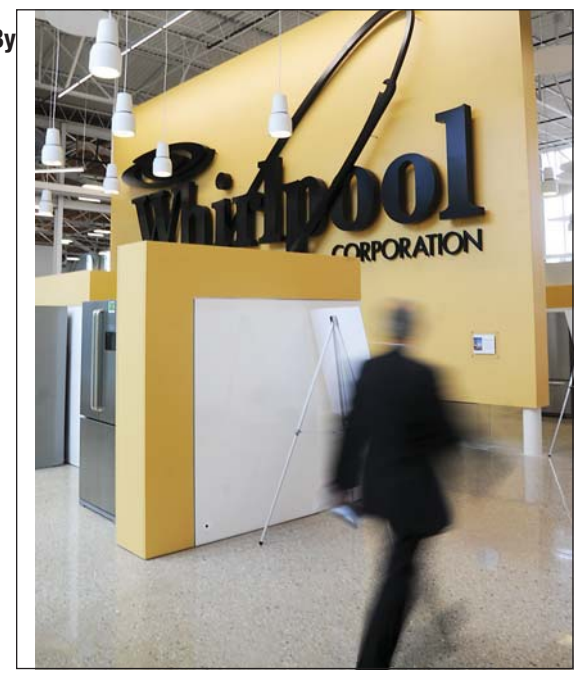
Joining Fettig to cut the ribbon at the Benton Harbor Technology Center were Dave Szczupak, executive vice president of global product organization at Whirlpool; Mike Finney, president and CEO of the Michigan Economic

See **WHIRLPOOL,** page A8

ABOVE: Refrigerators undergo a series of tests on Friday at Whirlpool's Benton Harbor Technology Center, formerly known as Plant 7.

RIGHT: The Whirlpool building that used to be known as Plant 7 now houses the Whirlpool Benton Harbor Technology Center.

By



Shop With a Cop in BH area

Fire Marshall Steve Johnson with the Benton Harbor Public Safety Department talks Friday with Albert White, 6, a first-grade student at International Academy at Hull in Benton Harbor. Thirty-eight students participated in the "Shop With a Cop" event at Meijer, sponsored by the Joique Bell Foundation.

Louise Wrege / HP staff

Joique Bell Foundation underwrites the effort

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BENTON TOWNSHIP — Whirling lights and screaming sirens from police cars announced the arrival of the 38 school children participating in this year's "Shop With a Cop" program at Meijer in Benton Township on Friday.

The Benton Harbor children were chosen by their school principals for their good grades and behavior, said Candy Gaddy, the mother of Detroit Lions running back and Benton Harbor native Joique Bell.

Each child received a $100 gift card paid for through the Joique Bell Foundation, she said.

But before they started shopping, the children were treated to lunch donated by Pizza Hut, Meijer and the police officers.

After lunch, each child was paired with an officer from Benton Harbor Public Safety, the Benton Township Police Department, the St. Joseph Township Police Department, Michigan State Police or the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Jordan Higgins, 9, knew just what he wanted. First, he got the essentials, such as socks, underwear and T-shirts. Then, the third grade student from International Academy at Hull checked out the toys, where he picked out a

See **SHOP,** page A8

VB woman charged with torturing child

By ANDREW LERSTEN
HP Staff Writer

BANGOR — A Bangor woman faces felony child abuse and torture charges, but police aren't yet releasing many details on the case.

The woman, 47, was arrested Friday after the Van Buren County Prosecutor's office authorized charges, said Detective First Lt. Chuck Christensen of the state police 5th District office in Paw Paw.

State police were notified Wednesday when suspicious injuries were found on a child, 6, by medical staff at Bronson Lakeview Hospital's emergency room in Paw Paw, Christensen said.

The charges carry a penalty of up to life in prison upon conviction, Christensen said.

Following an investigation by police and child protective services, the child was removed from the home.

No other details are being released at this time. The woman's name will be made public after she is arraigned Monday in Seventh District Court.

Contact: alersten@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter @HPLersten

'American Profile' magazine delayed until Jan. 3

To our Readers:

The publishers of "American Profile," the magazine insert that has been included each Saturday in The Herald-Palladium, have decided to convert the weekly publication into a twice-monthly magazine. There is no "American Profile" edition in today's HP. The next edition will appear Jan. 3.

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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Weather

High Today 34 | Low Tonight 29

Obama renews tax breaks, creates ABLE accounts

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama signed legislation Friday that temporarily extends dozens of costly tax breaks for millions of businesses and homeowners, commuters, teachers and others.

The measure also allows people with disabilities to open tax-free savings accounts.

The law extends the tax breaks through Dec. 31, allowing taxpayers to claim them on their 2014 income tax returns. But the fate of the tax provisions beyond this year will again be uncertain. Congress routinely extends the package of tax breaks every year or two, but they were allowed to expire in January.

The package will add nearly $42 billion to the budget deficit over the next decade, according to congressional estimates.

The 54 tax breaks benefit big corporations and small businesses, as well as struggling homeowners and residents of states without a state income tax. More narrow provisions include tax breaks for filmmakers, racehorse owners and rum producers in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

House Republicans and Senate Democrats negotiated to make some of the tax breaks permanent. But talks faltered after the White House threatened to veto an emerging package, saying it tilted too heavily toward big corporations instead of families. Republicans will control both houses when the new Congress reconvenes in early January.

The tax-free savings accounts for people with disabilities are modeled after tax-free college savings accounts.

To qualify, a person would have to be diagnosed by age 26 with a disability that results in "marked and severe functional limitations;" those receiving Social Security disability benefits would also qualify. Families would be able to set up tax-free accounts at financial institutions, depositing up to $14,000 annually to pay for long-term needs such as education, transportation, housing and health care.

The contributions would be in after-tax dollars but earnings would grow tax-free.

The ABLE accounts would be allowed to accrue up to $100,000 in savings without the person losing eligibility for government aid such as Social Security; the current asset limit is $2,000. Medicaid coverage would continue.

Majdi Mohammed / AP

Israeli border police detain a Palestinian protester following a prayer for Palestinian Cabinet minister Ziad Abu Ain, who collapsed shortly after a protest on Dec. 10, as they clash with the troops near the village outside of Ramallah on Friday.

Israel carries out airstrike on Gaza

By DANIEL ESTRIN
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel's military struck a Hamas site in the Gaza Strip early Saturday in its first airstrike on the Palestinian territory since this summer's war.

The Israeli military said the airstrike on what it called a "Hamas terror infrastructure site" in the southern Gaza Strip was in response to a rocket fired from Gaza into southern Israel on Friday. The rocket fire caused no injuries.

Palestinian residents reported hearing two explosions in the Khan Yunis region of Gaza, in an area that contains training sites for Palestinian militants. No injuries were immediately reported.

Lt. Col. Peter Lerner, an Israeli army spokesman, said Israel's military "will not permit any attempt to undermine the security and jeopardize the well being of the civilians of Israel. The Hamas terrorist organization is responsible and accountable for today's attack against Israel."

The Gaza rocket attack and Israeli retaliation came days after a European Union court ordered Hamas removed from the EU terrorist list for procedural reasons, but said the bloc can maintain asset freezes against Hamas members for now. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Hamas is "a murderous terror organization" and called for Hamas to be immediately returned to the list.

Israel and Hamas, the Palestinian militant group that controls Gaza, fought a 50-day war this summer. In that war, Hamas launched thousands of rockets and mortars toward Israel, which carried out an aerial campaign and a ground invasion.

The war left more than 2,100 Palestinians dead, according to Palestinian and U.N. officials. On the Israeli side, 66 soldiers and six civilians were killed.

In the West Bank on Friday, fierce clashes erupted between Palestinian protesters and Israeli forces at a West Bank military checkpoint and near the village of Turmus Aya, though no injuries were reported.

The village was the site of a Palestinian-Israeli scuffle earlier this month during which Palestinian Cabinet minister Ziad Abu Ain collapsed. He later died en route to hospital.

Palestinian and Israeli pathologists subsequently disagreed over the cause of Abu Ain's death. The Palestinian expert said the cause of death was a "blow," while his Israeli colleague said Abu Ain died of a heart attack.

No word yet from Fidel amid U.S.-Cuba shift

By ANNE-MARIE GARCIA
Associated Press

HAVANA — Everyone in Cuba is talking about the startling turn in relations with the United States, with one notable exception: Fidel Castro.

So far, the larger-than-life retired Cuban leader has made no public comment on the biggest news in years — that the U.S. and his island nation will restore diplomatic relations after more than 50 years of hostility.

His brother, President Raul Castro, announced the historic shift in a surprise television appearance Wednesday and there was speculation he could address it again during the Cuban National Assembly, which started one of its twice-annual sessions Friday.

Among those speaking out on the topic was Raul Castro's daughter, Mariela Castro.

She said moves by President Barack Obama to ease some travel and trade restrictions with the island are welcome but won't lead to the downfall of the communist system.

"If the U.S. thinks these changes will bring Cuba back to capitalism and return it to being a servile country to hegemonic interests of the most powerful financial groups in the U.S., they must be dreaming," she told The Associated Press.

But it's her famously bearded uncle who has long personified the Cuban revolution and its defiance of Washington. And he's not known for being reticent. He once set a record for the longest speech at the U.N. General Assembly — 4 hours and 16 minutes — and he's been known to weigh in on such topics as the Israel-Palestinian conflict in lengthy editorials.

When he suddenly went silent in 2011, there was speculation about the health of the elderly former leader, and now there is again.

Writer and Cuba expert Ann Louise Bardach says rumors swirl that the 88-year-old Castro never fully recovered from a series of surgeries that prompted his retirement.

"Even if he were in perfect health, he's of a certain age," said Bardach, author of "Without Fidel" and "Cuba Confidential."

Another explanation is that Fidel Castro is staying out of the limelight because, officially at least, his brother runs the country. Government officials won't discuss such a sensitive issue, and many ordinary Cubans shrug it off.

"He'll come out later," 19-year-old English student Enriqueta Nieto said of Fidel Castro. "But I think he's fine."

Obama said Fidel Castro's name came up only briefly in his phone conversation this week with Raul. The U.S. president said he opened the call with a 15-minute statement, then apologized for talking so long.

Obama said Castro responded, "You're still a young man and you still have a chance to break Fidel's record. He once spoke for seven hours straight."

The U.S. president said the Cuban leader then delivered an opening statement at least twice as long as his. "I was able to say it runs in the family," Obama quipped.

AP file photo

Cuba's Fidel Castro speaks with Russia's President Vladimir Putin in Havana, Cuba, in July.

It's not clear if Raul Castro brought up restoration of relations at Friday's National Assembly session, which was not open to the public.

On the midday newscast, there was no mention of any discussion of U.S. relations. State TV reported the economy minister, Marino Murillo, gave an update on moves toward eliminating Cuba's unwieldy dual-currency system, which since 1994 has created two pesos: one roughly pegged to the dollar and another, worth about 1/25th the convertible currency, which most ordinary Cubans get paid in. The bi-annual session was expected to resume Saturday.

LOTTERIES

Friday drawings

Michigan
Poker Lotto
AD-AS-5C-2H-9S
Midday Daily 3
5-9-7
Midday Daily 4
7-1-6-5
Daily 3
8-4-7
Daily 4
7-8-1-6
Fantasy 5
04-14-17-24-30
Keno
02-04-06-07-11-12-15-16-18-24-29-30-32-35-39-40-55-63-68-69-73-78
Mega Millions jackpot
$125 million
Powerball jackpot
$90 million

Indiana
Daily Three-Midday
3-3-6
Daily Four-Midday
7-9-1-0
Quick Draw Midday
03-04-05-08-11-20-28-33-37-40-41-42-47-48-51-59-60-71-73-80

Illimois
Hit or Miss Midday
01-02-05-06-07-10-14-16-18-19-21-24, GLN : 4
Hit or Miss Morning
01-02-04-06-07-10-12-17-18-20-22-24, GLN : 3
Lucky Day Lotto Midday
24-27-35-37-44
Pick Three-Midday
1-1-8, Fireball: 4
Pick Four-Midday
7-2-1-4, Fireball: 1

Thursday evening drawings

Indiana
Cash 5
10-20-32-35-37
Poker Lotto
KH-AH-QS-6C-5S
Daily Three-Evening
8-6-1
Daily Four-Evening
6-4-1-2

Illinois
Hit or Miss Drive
01-05-06-08-11-14-15-16-19-20-21-24, GLN : 1
Hit or Miss Evening
01-02-05-07-08-12-14-15-16-17-22-23, GLN : 4
Hit or Miss Midday
01-02-09-10-11-14-15-17-18-19-21-22, GLN : 1
Lotto
11-19-31-41-48-51, Extra Shot: 21
Pick Three-Evening
3-7-3, Fireball: 1
Pick Four-Evening
4-9-3-2, Fireball:
Lucky Day Lotto
07-10-13-28-33

– The Associated Press

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BERRIEN COUNTY

Chicago attorney hired as county's lawyer

By JOHN MATUSZAK
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — The Berrien County Board of Commissioners on Thursday appointed Chicago attorney James McGovern as corporate counsel, to replace Donna Howard, who was elected in November to a six-year term as judge in Berrien County Fifth District Court.

His salary will be $88,477 a year.

McGovern graduated from the University of Michigan and the DePaul University College of Law. He has served the city of Chicago as an assistant corporation counsel and Special Litigation Counsel. This includes 12 years of experience defending the city in personal injury cases and civil rights, in addition to representing numerous municipal divisions and employees. He is currently an associate attorney with Daley Mohan Groble.

No start date has been set for McGovern. Howard takes the bench Jan. 1.

In the interim, County Administrator Bill Wolf said he would consult with County Commissioner Mac Elliott, who is an attorney. Elliott will offer advice on whether legal representation is needed, if any unforeseen circumstances arise.

Howard, a Royalton Township resident, has been the county's lawyer since 2010.

Attending her last county board meeting, she thanked her colleagues for their support during her tenure.

She said the job has been "interesting, sometimes challenging, never boring."

Ten applications were received for the opening. McGovern was selected from three finalists that included Laurie Schmidt of Stevensville and Mark Bowman of Charlottesville, Va.

The interviews were conducted in public by a committee made up of county commissioners Jon Hinkelman, Marletta Seats, Neal Nitz, Andrew Vavra and Jim Curran; along with Prosecutor Michael Sepic, county human resources Director Shelley Jasper and Wolf.

Contact: jmatuszak@theHP.com, 932-0360, Twitter: @HPMatuszak

GOOD FELLOW FUND

Good Fellow Fund cracks $26,000

The momentum shows no sign of slowing for the 2014 Good Fellow Fund drive. The total reached $26,666 as of Friday. The goal is $35,000.

You can send your checks to the Good Fellow Fund c/o The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085.

Among contributors this week were:

Anonymous, $250; Charles & Lorraine Jespersen, $100; John and Marilyn Fetters, $100; John and Barb Carter, $100; Ivelise Boynton, $100; Verlin and Roberta Harder, $50;

Austin Tax & Financial, $1,000; Kenneth and Bonnie McKeown, $35; George G. Graber Trust, $500; Terence and Dorthy McNeil, $20; SM USBC WBA Board of Directors, $185;

Ronald and Sara Brandt, $35; In Memory of Mike Gaghiardo (Patricia Kutz), $25; In Memory of Curly and Marie Holland (Patricia Kutz), $25; James and Jacqueline Tessman, $25; Berrien Co Locksmiths, $100; Edward and Alice Atwood, $50; Perry and Annette Ballard, $50.

Money raised will be used to buy Meijer gift cards for struggling families identified by the Michigan Department of Human Services. The money stays in Southwest Michigan.

The HP administers the fund, which means every penny goes to families in need as to brighten their holidays.

Senator erects Nativity on Capitol lawn

LANSING (AP) — A state lawmaker has placed a Nativity scene on the east lawn of the state Capitol in Lansing.

Sen. Rick Jones tells MLive.com that he erected the Nativity featuring a baby Jesus, Joseph and the Virgin Mary Friday as a citizen and in response to a planned display by a Satanic group.

The Detroit chapter of The Satanic Temple is expected to place a display featuring a serpent, cross and secular message Dec. 21-23 on the north Capitol lawn.

Jones, a Republican from Grand Ledge, said he was happy to "represent the light and not the darkness."

Capitol rules require that displays have to be taken down each night.

SOUTH HAVEN BOMB THREAT

Becky Kark / For The Herald-Palladium

South Haven High School students evacuate the building Friday after school authorities received word of a bomb threat. Students stayed at nearby Lincoln Elementary School while South Haven Police and bomb sniffing dogs from the Michigan State Police searched the building. No bomb was found, and students returned to classes. The case remains under investigation.

Stevensville council fills opening

By ANDREW LERSTEN
HP Staff Writer

STEVENSVILLE — The Stevensville Village Council is back to full strength.

The council has appointed Larry Wozniak to fill a two-year vacant seat, Clerk Tiffany Moore said.

Wozniak has been active in the community and is the retired manager, and former co-owner, of the Stevensville Super 8 Motel.

He is first vice president of the Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce,

and president of the Shoreline Hotel/Motel Assessment District board. He is former president of the Discover Stevensville Festival board.

"I've lived in the village for about 39 years, and I figure it's time I got involved in the village (government)," he said Friday.

He's the second new member of the Village Council. Donna Thompson, a former councilwoman who won a seat as a write-in candidate last month, was sworn in to office on Nov. 24, Moore said.

After Councilman Don Schlipp resigned last year, the council left the seat vacant. Earlier this year, it held a public hearing on whether to keep a seven-person council or reduce it to five as now allowed by law. Ultimately, it decided to keep the larger council.

In other village news, new President Steve Slavicek last week appointed council members Thompson, Pat Arter and Brian Liggett to a sidewalk committee, the clerk reported.

The committee will work with the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, which has been hired to review the condition of the village sidewalks and develop a priority list of repairs and replacements.

Contact: alersten@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter @HPLersten

City of Hartford gets with the times

City sets up online payment system

By ANDREW LERSTEN
HP Staff Writer

HARTFORD — Hartford is making it easier for its residents and customers to do business with the city.

On Dec. 1, the city began accepting credit and debit card payments for all city bills, at City Hall and online, City Manager Yemi Akinwale said.

"It's just for the convenience," he said. "We had many people calling and asking us about it."

The company the city uses charges a fee equal to up to 3 percent of the amount, with a minimum $1.50 fee, Akinwale said.

"You can use it for utilities, taxes or even building permits," he said.

In other city news, officials continue to shop around for the best deal on a loan to buy new water meters, Akinwale said.

The city wants to borrow $180,584 to buy 861 meters. The meters to be replaced are about 10 years old and nearing their life expectancy, city officials said earlier.

The Van Buren County Board of Commissioners has offered to loan the city the money at 6.25 percent interest, from the county's revolving loan fund. But Akinwale said he can get a better deal, and already has two bank offers with lower interest rates.

He said he soon wants to bring back a loan recommendation to the City Commission. Ideally, the new meters will be in place by the end of April, he said. The new meters will last up to 20 years.

Contact: alersten@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter @HPLersten

Chrysler gives in to gov't, expands air bag recall

DETROIT (AP) — After resisting for nearly a month, Chrysler has bowed to government demands and will expand a recall of driver's side air bag inflators across the nation.

The automaker said Friday that it will recall nearly 2.9 million older cars and trucks in the U.S., as demanded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The vehicles have driver's air bags equipped with inflators made by Japan's Takata Corp. that can explode with too much force and spew shrapnel at drivers and passengers. At least five deaths have been blamed on Takata inflators.

The recalls previously were limited to areas with high humidity. For instance, Chrysler's recall covered just Hawaii, Florida, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. With the move, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles joins Honda, Mazda and Ford in expanding the recall nationally, which could ease the minds of many car owners whose vehicles previously weren't eligible for repairs.

How soon those owners will get replacement parts remains in question, however. Like other automakers, Chrysler said it will first send replacement parts to areas with high humidity that are at greater risk. The automaker said customers will be notified when the parts are available to schedule repairs at a dealership.

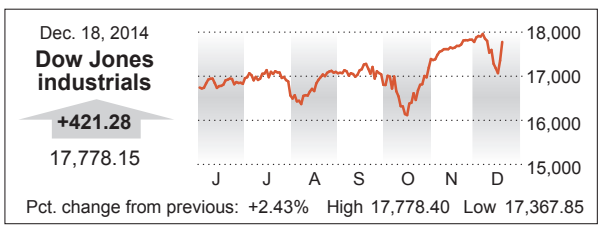
Takata itself has refused the agency's request for a nationwide recall of driver's side inflators, about 8 million in total. But it will still make replacement parts for the automakers that are expanding their recalls. Still undecided is whether Takata or the automakers will pay the extra costs involved.

Takata says it has tested more than 1,000 driver and passenger air bag inflators from outside the high-humidity area without a single failure.

BMW, the lone automaker holding out on a nationwide recall, said Friday it's still evaluating NHTSA's request. In a statement, Chrysler also said it would add Canada, Mexico and some areas outside North America to the driver's air bag recall, bringing the total to 3.3 million vehicles.

The recall includes Chrysler's most popular model, the Ram pickup, from the 2004 through 2007 model years. Also covered are Dodge Durango and Chrysler Aspen SUVs, Chrysler 300 and Dodge Charger sedans, Dodge Magnum wagons, and the Dodge Dakota and Mitsubishi ranger pickups — all from 2004 through 2007.

Markets



Amer Elec Power AEP
$59.89 ▼ -.09 -.2%
+4.3 +28.1

Whirlpool WHR
$189.73 ▼ -.79 -.4%
+3.3 +21.0

LocalStocks

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE LO	HI	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR
AT&T Inc	T	31.74	37.48	**33.54**	**+.03**	+0.1	▲	▼	▼
AEP	AEP	45.24	59.99	**59.89**	**-.09**	-0.2	▲	▲	▲
Apple Inc s	AAPL	70.51	119.75	**111.78**	**-.87**	-0.8	▲	▼	▲
AutoZone	AZO	461.14	616.11	**618.60**	**+3.12**	+0.5	▲	▲	▲
BP PLC	BP	34.88	53.48	**39.40**	**+1.08**	+2.8	▲	▼	▼
BonTon	BONT	6.59	18.62	**7.28**	**+.08**	+1.1	▲	▼	▼
CMS Eng	CMS	25.95	34.55	**34.49**	**-.06**	-0.2	▲	▲	▲
ChemFinl	CHFC	25.99	33.28	**30.18**	**+.27**	+0.9	▲	▲	▲
CocaCola	KO	36.89	45.00	**41.95**	**-.44**	-1.0	▲	▼	▼
Comcast	CMCSA	47.74	57.49	**57.17**	**+.88**	+1.6	▲	▲	▲
Deere	DE	78.88	94.89	**90.10**	**+.56**	+0.6	▲	▲	▲
Disney	DIS	69.84	94.50	**92.89**	**+.28**	+0.3	▲	▲	▲
ExxonMbl	XOM	86.19	104.76	**93.64**	**+2.48**	+2.7	▲	▼	▼
FamilyDlr	FDO	55.64	80.97	**78.96**	**-.50**	-0.6	▼	▬	▲
FifthThird	FITB	17.65	23.90	**20.07**	**-.02**	-0.1	▲	▼	▲
1stSource	SRCE	27.56	33.21	**34.26**	**+1.30**	+3.9	▲	▲	▲
FordM	F	13.26	18.12	**15.03**	**+.22**	+1.5	▲	▼	▲
GenElec	GE	23.69	28.09	**25.62**	**+.48**	+1.9	▲	▼	▬
Google A	GOOGL	497.19	615.03	**520.04**	**+5.42**	+1.1	▼	▼	▼
HomeDp	HD	73.96	101.40	**101.93**	**+1.26**	+1.3	▲	▲	▲
HorizBcp	HBNC	19.38	26.71	**26.44**	**+.44**	+1.7	▲	▲	▲
HuntBncsh	HBAN	8.66	10.50	**10.33**	**-.14**	-1.3	▲	▲	▲
IDEX	IEX	65.91	81.82	**77.01**	**+.78**	+1.0	▲	▼	▲
IntegrysE	TEG	52.08	76.72	**76.58**	**-.10**	-0.1	▲	▲	▲
IBM	IBM	150.50	199.21	**158.51**	**+.83**	+0.5	▲	▼	▼
JPMorgCh	JPM	52.97	63.16	**61.93**	**+.45**	+0.7	▲	▲	▲
JohnJn	JNJ	86.09	109.49	**105.55**	**-1.26**	-1.2	▲	▼	▼
JournalCm	JRN	7.79	11.37	**11.21**	**+.05**	+0.4	▲	▲	▲
Lowes	LOW	44.13	67.27	**66.90**	**+.28**	+0.4	▲	▲	▲
McDnlds	MCD	87.62	103.78	**93.22**	**-.45**	-0.5	▲	▼	▼
Microsoft	MSFT	34.63	50.05	**47.66**	**+.14**	+0.3	▲	▼	▲
MillerHer	MLHR	26.25	32.72	**29.70**	**-.25**	-0.8	▼	▼	▼
Penney	JCP	4.90	11.30	**6.59**	**-.21**	-3.1	▲	▼	▼
Perrigo	PRGO	125.37	168.39	**168.14**	**+3.29**	+2.0	▲	▲	▲
Pfizer	PFE	27.51	33.12	**31.94**	**-.03**	-0.1	▲	▲	▲
ProctGam	PG	75.26	92.00	**92.05**	**+.05**	+0.1	▲	▲	▲
RepubSvc	RSG	31.42	40.46	**40.26**	**-.20**	-0.5	▲	▲	▲
SearsHldgs	SHLD	24.10	48.25	**33.04**	**-.25**	-0.8	▲	▼	▲
Steelcse	SCS	13.60	18.22	**17.80**	**+.07**	+0.4	▲	▲	▲
Stryker	SYK	71.24	95.85	**94.79**	**-1.04**	-1.1	▲	▲	▲
Target	TGT	54.66	74.99	**73.95**	**-.69**	-0.9	▲	▲	▲
TractSupp	TSCO	55.95	79.14	**76.38**	**-1.12**	-1.4	▼	▲	▲
UPS B	UPS	93.19	111.57	**110.96**	**+.03**	...	▲	▲	▲
VerizonCm	VZ	45.09	53.66	**47.02**	**-.03**	-0.1	▲	▼	▼
WalMart	WMT	72.27	88.09	**85.16**	**-.78**	-0.9	▲	▲	▲
Walgrn	WAG	54.86	76.39	**73.23**	**-1.15**	-1.5	▼	▲	▲
Wendys Co	WEN	7.61	10.27	**8.64**	**-.17**	-1.9	▼	▲	▲

PRODUCE PRICES

The following prices were recorded on the Chicago Terminal Market on Thursday. Prices are not net to the growers as freight and selling fees have not been deducted. These prices were provided by the USDA Market News Branch office in Chicago.

APPLES: cartons tray pack of Washington Extra Fancy Red Delicious 72s sold lower for mostly $21.50-$22, Golden Delicious mostly $25-$26, with Fuji at $25 and Honeycrisp 80s $33.50-$34.50 with fine appearance from $60-$62. Cartons of 12 3-pound film bags from Michigan graded U.S. Extra Fancy 2 1/2 inch minimum Red Delicious sold lower from $15.50-$16.50, Gala from $17.50-$18.50, Jonathan brought $15.50-$16.50 and Mcintosh $13-$14. WA Extra Fancy 2 1/2 inch minimum Red Delicious from Washington sold steady from $29-$30.

ASPARAGUS: 11-pound cartons/crates bunched standard size green from Peru sold higher for mostly $34-$36.

BEANS: bushel cartons/crates of round green type offerings from Florida sold higher for mostly $25-$28.

BERRIES: Flats of 12 6-ounce cups of blueberries from Argentina sold lower from $29-$29.50, while Chile brought $26.50-$27.50. Strawberries in flats of 8 1-pound containers of medium-large size from Mexico sold lower for mostly $26.50-$27.

BROCCOLI: cartons of 14 bunches from California sold from $13-$14.

CABBAGE: 50-pound cartons of green medium size from Georgia sold lower for $15, with red offerings $13.50-$14.

CAULIFLOWER: cartons of green 12 film-wrapped heads from California sold much lower for mostly $20-$21.

CLEMENTINES: 5-pound containers of 20s from Spain sold for $6.

CORN: wirebound crates of 4-4 1/2 dozen ears of Florida bi-color and yellow no sales reported.

CUCUMBERS: 1 1/9 bushel cartons from Mexico of medium size sold higher for $22, fair quality mostly $16-$18, and cartons 24s for $10-$11. 200-300 size pickles from Mexico sold for $24-$26.

EGGPLANT: 1 1/9 bushel cartons of wrapped medium size from Florida sold higher for $16, with fair quality offerings $14.

LETTUCE: cartons film-lined of 24 heads of iceberg lettuce from California sold lower from mostly $14-$15.

ORANGES: cartons 10 4-pound film bags of navels from California 88 size sold for $20.

PEPPERS: 1 1/9 bushel cartons of jumbo green bell peppers from Georgia sold higher for $28, with extra-large $27-$28. Extra-large size jalapeno peppers from Mexico sold lower for mostly $21-$22, while medium hungarian wax type sold lower for $22-$23.

SQUASH: 4/7 bushel cartons of small size zucchini from Mexico sold lower from mostly $21-$22, with medium $19-$20. Offerings of yellow straightneck small sold higher from $28-$30, with medium $24-$26. 1 1/9 bushel cartons/crates of medium size acorn from Mexico sold steady from $20-$22, with butternut mostly $19-$20 and spaghetti mostly $20-$22.

TOMATOES: Two-layer cartons loose vine ripes from Mexico of 4x4s, 4x5s and 5x5s all sold much lower for $24-$26, while 25-pound cartons of Mature Greens from Florida 5x6 size sold lower for $26.

LOCAL GRAIN

Co-Alliance LLP Buchanan
Corn ..... $3.66, no change
January corn ..... $3.66, no change
Beans ..... $9.81, down 4¢
January beans ..... $9.81, down 4¢
These are the markets as of yesterday.

John Minchillo / AP

Giselle Basurto, of Mexico, shops at a Kmart store in New York on Thanksgiving Day. Retail sales rose 1.8 percent from Nov. 1 through Monday, Dec. 15, 2014 according to data provided from First Data Corp., which tracks purchases at 800,000 stores including online. The modest growth comes despite the heavy discounting customary throughout the season.

Sales for holiday shopping season come down to wire

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK — Despite an early start, sales data provided to The Associated Press show that stores may once again have to rely on procrastinators to save the holiday shopping season.

Sales rose 1.8 percent from Nov. 1 through Monday compared with the same period a year ago, according to payment technology company First Data Corp.

The numbers are modest considering that the National Retail Federation, the nation's largest retail trade group, expects sales for the entire season — November and December — to rise 4.1 percent to $616.9 billion.

The slow growth also comes at a time when retailers tried to do a number of things to jumpstart the season and encourage shoppers to spend. Some offered "holiday" discounts as early as Halloween instead of waiting until the day after Thanksgiving known as Black Friday. And more stores opened on Thanksgiving Day itself to offer people early enticements to spend.

But the incentives seem to have backfired. Shoppers took advantage of the earlier sales and hours, but that had the effect of syphoning away sales from Black Friday, which is typically the biggest sales day of the year.

"The numbers are lower than what people expected them to be so it will be interesting to see what happens in the final days of the holiday shopping season," said Rishi Chhabra, First Data's vice president of information and analytics.

As a result of the modest sales, retailers are making a big final push to lure shoppers into stores. And they're employing tactics they've had to use since the recession.

Dennis May, CEO and president of Hhgregg Inc., said the consumer electronics chain added a "buy more, save-more" sales event that is ending this week. And it's also extending the cutoff date for online shoppers who want to pick up their items in the store until noon Christmas Eve. Last year, the cutoff date was Dec. 23.

"I think the consumer is very savvy," he said. "They're not shopping with abandon. They're not throwing their budgets to the wind."

Major retailers including Macy's and Toys R Us are offering marathon shopping hours. Kohl's, for instance, is opening its stores for 132 hours straight until 6 p.m. Christmas Eve. That compares with 108-hour stretch last year.

"Customers can rely on us around the clock for their last-minute gift-giving solutions," said Michelle Gass, Kohl's chief customer officer.

Despite the frenzy, retailers don't necessarily have to panic. There still are big potential spending days ahead, including this Saturday, which some industry watchers are saying could be the biggest shopping day of the year. In fact, the average holiday shopper had completed only 52.9 percent of their holiday shopping as of December 10, according to a survey of more than 6,165 shoppers conducted by the retail trade group.

But retailers also have to watch their bottom lines. Shoppers have become more accustomed to deals, and many aren't willing to pay regular price anymore.

Indeed, C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group, said 60 percent of 1,000 shoppers polled last weekend said they were only buying deals this holiday season. That compares with 40 percent last year.

But all the discounts eat away profits. According to First Data, the number of transactions rose 1.8 percent, but the average transaction was flat at $73.85, showing how heavy discounting can hurt the bottom line.

"I don't think it's great out there," said Ron Friedman, head of the retail and consumer products group at accounting firm Marcum LLP who estimates that holiday sales will be up 2 percent from last year. "People are out in the stores and shopping, but they're all looking for deals.

Indeed, some shoppers are hesitant to spend a lot, despite some recent good economic news. Average gas prices nationally have dropped and the unemployment rate is at a six-year low. But some shoppers still struggle with higher costs and stagnant wages.

Tick-tock: Tips for last-minute shoppers

By SARAH SKIDMORE SELL
AP Business Writer

PORTLAND, Ore. — The clock is ticking, and your holiday shopping list isn't complete.

Don't fret — you aren't alone.

The National Retail Federation found that only about half of shoppers had finished shopping as of Dec. 10. That means tens of millions will be ticking those final items off their lists in the coming days.

But procrastination doesn't have to mean desperation. Here are a few tips to help survive last-minute shopping:

Seize the day: Retailers know the rush is coming, and they are doing everything they can to attract last-minute shoppers. This includes extended shopping hours, expedited shipping and exclusive promotions.

That opens up lots of strategies for shopping that will keep you out of the crazy lines in stores at noon on Christmas Eve.

One tactic is to become a night owl. Many retailers are open longer in the week before Christmas. For example, Wal-Mart says its stores are open 24 hours a day up until 8 p.m. on Christmas Eve and it is offering shipping options up until Dec. 23. Toys R Us stores are open around the clock from the morning of Dec. 23 through 9 p.m. Christmas Eve; it also is extending its hours in the days preceding.

And many retailers, such as Best Buy, allow shoppers to find an item online and pick it up at a store. Even 7-Eleven is targeting shoppers, offering gift cards, toys and stocking stuffers in its stores.

The bottom line: Take advantage of those last-minute discounts and other deals.

Do your homework: Marshal Cohen, chief industry analyst at market researcher NPD Group, says many people do not yet know what they want to give, or get.

"These consumers are the ones who put themselves in a stressful situation," he said. "The one saving grace is online (shopping) is a chance for a lot of people to do their homework."

He said shoppers can narrow down their options ahead of time by looking online.

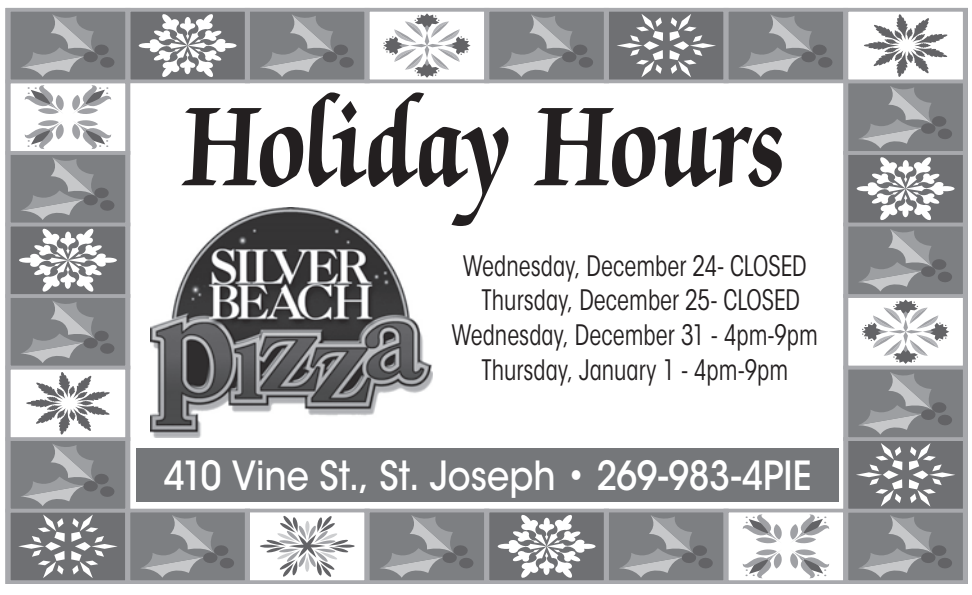
You can also check Amazon.com to see if the person has a wish list you didn't know about, or study Facebook or Pinterest pages for ideas.

Such prep work can save a lot of headaches and potentially limit last-minute impulse purchases that can prove costly.

Wear comfortable shoes: Seriously, this is a common-sense step many shoppers skip.

"Wear comfortable shoes for goodness sake," Cohen said. "It (shopping) is exercise and it's not very comfortable."

Don't waste time cruising to find the closest spot to the store either, he said. Those comfortable shoes will make it easier to just park and walk.


Holiday Hours
SILVER BEACH pizza
Wednesday, December 24- CLOSED
Thursday, December 25- CLOSED
Wednesday, December 31 - 4pm-9pm
Thursday, January 1 - 4pm-9pm
410 Vine St., St. Joseph • 269-983-4PIE

hp HOME & GARDEN

A campfire without the fuss

Fire pits, rings and tables can help extend the outdoor living season

By DEAN FOSDICK
Associated Press

Gas-operated fire pits, fire rings and fire-pit tables are emerging as modern-day substitutes for campfires.

Flipping a switch to ignite the flames is a whole lot easier than kindling a stack of firewood. Safer, too.

"The outdoor living trend is continuing to gain momentum," said Ross Johnson, sales and marketing manager for The Outdoor Great Room Co. in Eagan, Minn. "It started with grills and then people began spending money for outdoor furniture. Fire pits have evolved, with consumers moving toward gas for less expense and a multitude of issues."

Fire pits, fire rings, and fire-ring or fire-pit tables come in all sizes and shapes, in-ground or portable.

Fire pits are holes dug into the ground to keep flames from spreading. They vary from intimate cooking fires for two to elaborate, gas-fueled burners that become conversation centers for large gatherings.

Fire rings are cleared flat surfaces with protective metal, stone or concrete built around them to contain the burn. They often include cooking grills fueled by wood or gas – either natural gas or propane.

Fire-ring or fire-pit tables have holes in the middle for open flames to provide ambiance and warmth. The tables can be used for place settings when the burner center is capped.

"Round tables are still the No. 1-selling burner, but we're seeing more popularity with linear, even L-shaped, table-type seating," Johnson said. "It depends upon how much room you have on the patio or deck."

Johnson advises against using fire tables for cooking.

"I recommend they get a grill," he said. "They're easier to clean up."

Some considerations on wood vs. gas before you buy or build:

■ Wood-burning fixtures are cheaper to make and use. Wood gives off more heat. You can cook using wood. Wood is portable.

■ Gas is easier to light and control. Firewood is expensive and harder to find for urban dwellers. In many areas of the country, gas fires are allowed but wood fires are banned for reasons of safety, air quality and convenience.

Many homeowners have moved beyond the stand-alone BBQ grill, said Travis Stark, manager of Capital Patio & The Flame Shop in Lincoln, Neb.

"You can get outdoor dishwashers and refrigerators now – a whole outdoor kitchen," Stark said. "Fire pits can be integrated into that."

Some homes have multiple outdoor entertainment areas, said Leisa Rogers McCollister, a spokeswoman for OW Lee Co. Inc. in Ontario, Calif.

"Larger houses have lots of little areas, like off master bedrooms," she said. "People furnish them with comfortable seating and fire rings."

Why outdoor kitchens?

Many reasons. Their mood-setting atmosphere can be enhanced with LED lights, freestanding walls, benches and water fixtures. They can be used as gathering sites for cooking and conversing, to provide supplemental outdoor heating, to expand a home's usable living space or to boost its resale value.

"I wouldn't use one (a fire ring or table) in a January blizzard here in Minnesota, but it can extend the outdoor season six weeks earlier in spring and six weeks later in the fall," Johnson said. "That's an extra three months that people can enjoy outdoors."

The Outdoor Great Room Co. photo

A fire pit table with a plastic wind guard at Paradise Landing restaurant in Balsam Lake, Wis. Gas-fueled fire pit tables are becoming popular for their mood-setting entertainment and can extend the outdoor season three or more months in temperate areas. Round tables are the No. 1-selling burners, but more people are choosing linear or L-shaped tables.

What to feed birds that don't fly south for the winter

Joe Lamp'l
The Gardener Within

By now, you've likely noticed, not all birds head south for the winter. Some hardy souls stay put, toughing out these cold, gray months of the year, while making them a bit brighter for the rest of us. Laying out a buffet for winter birds provides gardeners another form of winter interest and flags your garden as a welcome place for feathered friends.

To help make their stay a bit more pleasant, here are some feeding tips to supplement their diet.

Who's coming to dinner?

To accommodate the broadest number of species, have several different feeding stations available. Which species you'll entertain depends on where you live in the country. Some of the most common winter birds include black-capped chickadees, house finches, tufted titmice, downy woodpeckers, northern cardinals, American goldfinches, dark-eyed juncos, robins and the ubiquitous house sparrows.

What's on the menu?

In winter, birds need extra-high calorie seeds rich with fats to keep warm, since their favorite foods of insects and fruits and native seeds are scarce. Don't bother with the generic bargain bags of mixed birdseed. They contain a lot of red millet, split peas, beans and even green and pink lumps of dog biscuit crumbs and other fillers birds just don't eat or are only suitable for larger birds like pheasants and pigeons. Instead, buy individual types of birdseed in bulk and mix your own custom blends. Your local bird supply store can help with this or may already have specialty blends best suited for birds in your area.

When it comes to seed, black oil sunflower seeds are very popular with cardinals, purple finches, chickadees and nuthatches (but squirrels and raccoons love them too). Nyjer is a favorite of goldfinches and siskins. It's diminutive and light, like a poppy seed, and works best in a special feeder made with small holes to dispense the tiny seeds. White millet is probably the least expensive seed you can provide. Sparrows, juncos and mourning doves appreciate white millet.

Hulled, salt-free peanuts are rich in fat. Great spotted woodpeckers love them, but they should be crushed into smaller bits for robins, nuthatches and house sparrows. Peanuts can be high in a natural toxin called aflatoxin, so buy safe nuts from a reputable bird food dealer.

Alternatively, suet balls are a concentrated source of energy. They come ready made in wire feeders. You can make your own by melting suet into a mix of seeds and nuts, oatmeal and dried fruits. Pour the mixture into a plastic butter tub or other disposable container, allow to harden, and place at the feeding station. Or, slather peanut butter mixed with dried fruit directly onto tree bark for an easy alternative.

TNS photo

In winter, birds need extra-high calorie seeds rich with fats to keep warm since their favorite foods of insects, fruits and native seeds are scarce.

Avoid using cooking fats or drippings – they don't harden and can smear on birds' feathers, and they promote bacterial growth. Cooked brown and white rice is OK, but don't serve cooked oats; keep them raw. The sticky oatmeal can harden around a bird's beak.

Feeders

Choose large-capacity feeders; they don't need to be refilled as frequently. Platform feeders are flat shelves that hang from cords or chains, rest on elevated poles or are attached to the sides of structures. They tend to attract the widest variety, from perching birds to ground feeders. However, hopper and fly-through models with wide, overhanging covers are better in the winter; the landing areas and dispensers won't be buried by snow.

Location

Shelter your feeders out of severe winds, near protective hedges or brush piles, where the birds will have a place to fly for safety from predators. Putting feeders close to the house will make them more convenient to refill and place the birds in view to indoor birdwatchers. To reduce collisions with the glass, keep feeders close to the windows – no more than 3 feet or so – and apply decorative window stickers as an added precaution.

Cleanliness

Clean feeders are more attractive, but they also help prevent disease. Large capacity feeders are more convenient but must be protected from moisture to prevent mold and mildew from growing on the food. Exposed platform feeders should be emptied daily to prevent spoilage. Toss out seed that's soggy or encased in ice, and allow the feeders to dry before refilling.

Joe Lamp'l is the host and executive producer of Growing a Greener World on national public television, and the founder of The joe gardener® Company, devoted to environmentally responsible gardening and sustainable outdoor living. For more information, go to growingagreenerworld.com.

3 steps to keep holiday plants happy

By NANCY BRACHEY
The Charlotte Observer (TNS)

A lot of plants come into our homes in December, and whether their stay is good or bad depends on you.

Poinsettias, cyclamen, chrysanthemums and of course, the Christmas tree arrive usually in perfect condition. They're a joy for the household. But they also represent an investment of money.

These plants are not hard to keep in very good condition for several weeks. But their chief enemy is heat – the kind that flows out of the furnace vents in every room or from a blazing fireplace.

I am always amazed at how people think they should keep these plants warm, like a pet or other warm-blooded creature. But these plants arose in varying climates outdoors, not in your warm living room. Heat dries them out and shortens the life and beauty of flowers.

■ The first rule is to place these potted plants and your tree as far from heat sources as possible. While a Christmas tree is not moveable, potted plants are. If you have an unheated enclosed porch or sun room, that makes an ideal spot to store the plants overnight or even for the few days before a party. They will be cool, but not freeze. The cool nights will greatly extend the bloom life of the popular chrysanthemum and cyclamen plants. That is why florists and garden centers keep cut flowers and potted plants in very cool, but not freezing conditions. A drop in temperature at night is especially helpful because it puts the plant to rest.

If you have no sunroom or enclosed porch, these pots should go near a cool window, where the temperature will likely be lower than elsewhere in the room.

■ The second thing to think about is water. This is oh-so-easy to do right, but easy to forget. Nothing more than plain water is required. But make it lukewarm, especially for potted plants. Letting a Christmas tree dry out encourages needles to start dropping. Letting potted plants wilt causes yellow foliage, drooping stems and short-lived flowers.

But it is winter, and plants will not dry out as rapidly now as those do out in the summer sun. Just check them every other day. It isn't nearly as difficult a job as trying to keep a hanging basket watered in July. If you go away for a few days, ask someone to take care of your plants so that you can enjoy them as long as possible. A wilted plant is a wounded plant that you probably won't want to keep.

■ The third thing is sunlight. A Christmas tree doesn't require sunlight because it has no blooms to open. But flowering plants do, and sunlight through a window will bring out those buds nicely. It helps that window sills tend to be cooler spots than the interior of a room.

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Quote File

What people are saying in Southwest Michigan

'I'm here today because I'm Reverend Pinkney. I've committed no crime. Had I been anybody else, I wouldn't be here.'

– ED PINKNEY
Before being sentenced to 2 1/2 to 10 years in prison for changing dates on recall petitions. Pinkney received a stiff penalty due to being a habitual offender

'My ultimate goal ... is to make Benton Harbor like Mayberry.'

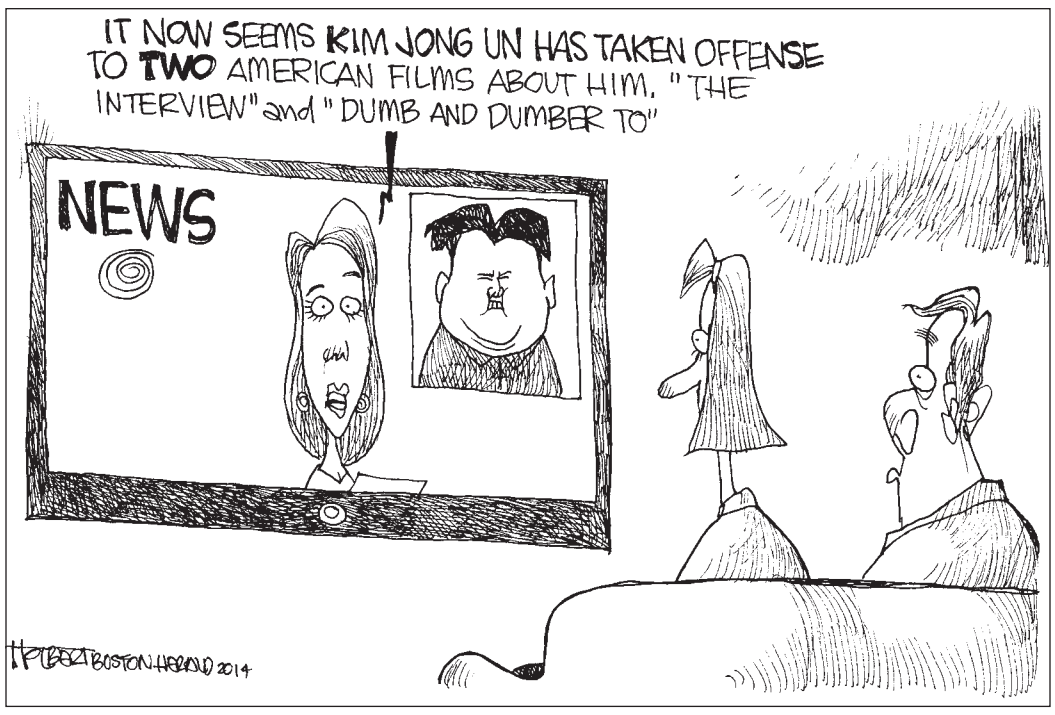
– DAN McGINNIS
Benton Harbor acting public safety director, discussing local community policing goals in the wake of national protests regarding police tactics

'We believe these are financial irregularities that do not appear to be unintentional errors, and as such, warrant another investigation.'

– KENLEY PENNER
Plante Moran auditor for the North Berrien Fire Rescue dept. Bob Wooley, facing embezzling charges as director of the North Berrien Senior Center, was the department treasurer

'We have consulted with many builders, developers and architects and unfortunately the building is beyond repair and not salvageable.'

– MARC and LESLIE DANESI
Owners of the former Hannah's Restaurant building in New Buffalo, which is being razed


IT NOW SEEMS KIM JONG UN HAS TAKEN OFFENSE TO TWO AMERICAN FILMS ABOUT HIM, "THE INTERVIEW" and "DUMB AND DUMBER TO"
NEWS
BOSTON HERALD 2014

More illegals can now game the system

President Obama's unilateral executive action on immigration will make hundreds of thousands, perhaps more than a million, illegal immigrants eligible for federal transfer payments. That will be done primarily through two widely used programs – the Earned Income Tax Credit, or EITC, and the Additional Child Tax Credit, or ACTC.

As it turns out, those two programs are already among the most corrupt and fraud-ridden in the entire federal government. A newly released report from the inspector general of the Internal Revenue Service confirms that the EITC is plagued by fraud (which was already well known) and also reveals for the first time that the ACTC is even worse.

Byron York

The two programs, intended for low-income workers, provide what is known as refundable tax credits. That means they give workers a tax refund that is larger than their tax liability. So a family with a tax bill of $1,000 might receive an EITC "refund" of $5,000, meaning the family doesn't write a check to the government but rather receives a check from the government. The ACTC works similarly for low-income workers with children.

Supported by both political parties over the years, the programs were intended to encourage work and strengthen families. Their growth has been extraordinary in recent years – payments increased 40 percent from 2007 to 2012 alone. And now both are beset by staggering levels of fraud.

According to the inspector general, the IRS paid out $63 billion in EITC benefits in 2013. Of that, 24 percent, or about $15 billion, was given improperly to people not qualified to receive it. That improper payment rate has been enough to qualify the EITC as a "high risk" program for years.

The IRS paid out $26.6 billion in ACTC credits in 2013. The inspector general reports the child credit improper payment rate for that year was somewhere between 25.2 percent and 30.5 percent – worse than the EITC.

Considering that federal law defines a program as having "significant improper payments" when such payments exceed 2.5 percent of all the money the program sends out, those are pretty terrible numbers.

Even as the problems with the Earned Income Tax Credit were obvious, the IRS has for years insisted that the child credit was a program with a "low risk" of fraud. The inspector general concluded that the IRS has known all along that the "low risk" designation was phony. "The IRS's rating of the ACTC as low risk for significant improper payments is contrary to its own enforcement data," the report noted.

Both Congress and the president have ordered the IRS to crack down on improper payments. But the agency doesn't appear to be trying very hard. "The estimated EITC improper payment rate has remained relatively unchanged since fiscal year 2003 (the first year the IRS was required to report estimates of these payments to Congress), and the amount of EITC claims paid in error has grown," writes the inspector general.

The report estimates there has been somewhere between $124 billion and $148 billion in improper EITC payments in the last decade. That's more than the federal government pays for, say, veterans' benefits, or the justice system, or agriculture, or transportation in any given year. And it is all wasted.

Top IRS management has disputed most of the inspector general's conclusions and rejected most of his suggestions. So don't expect much to change. But if nothing changes, the problem will get worse.

"Existing compliance processes will not reduce the billions of dollars in improper Earned Income Tax Credit and Additional Child Tax Credit payments," the inspector general concludes.

And now the programs – and the fraud – are likely to grow with the president's immigration order. It's something Obama did not take time to explain when he made the announcement.

In fact, the president obscured what is happening by telling the covered illegal immigrants that if "you're willing to pay your fair share of taxes, you'll be able to stay" ... In fact, for many of those affected, "willing to pay your fair share of taxes" actually means "willing to accept an assistance check from the government."

If past practice is any guide, the Obama administration will likely start an aggressive, multilingual campaign to encourage illegal immigrants affected by the president's action to apply for as many benefits as possible. And if not all of them are actually eligible to receive the taxpayers' money? Well, no one will be checking that too closely.

Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.

Another opinion

Amateur hour at the White House

As leaks from the Pentagon grow in the wake of Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel's decision to step down, it becomes apparent part of the problem has been White House micromanaging of the military.

President Barack Obama is commander-in-chief of the armed forces. He has the authority to tell generals and admirals, not to mention secretaries of defense, to do whatever he wants. But experience has shown that while civilians ought to have the last word on the armed forces, allowing amateurs to make many military decisions is a bad idea.

Obama and his aides already have been criticized by Hagel's immediate predecessors, Robert Gates and Leon Panetta.

And it is known Hagel left under pressure from the White House, perhaps because he, like Panetta and Gates, made his displeasure with the president's management style too clear.

U.S. armed forces have scored impressive victories during the past few years. But there also have been failures, as in that involving Islamic State terrorists. It is apparent some of those problems have been because military professionals' advice was not followed.

If Obama continues to ignore the professionals, dire consequences may result.

– The Alpena News

The Founders did not intend to ban public faith

The first freedom protected in the First Amendment of our Bill of Rights is freedom of religion. It reads: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof ..."

Tellingly, on Dec. 16, 1791, the day after that Bill of Rights was ratified, Congress asked President Washington to "recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging, with grateful hearts, the many signal favors of Almighty God."

Bruce Kauffmann
History Lesson

The point being that Thomas Jefferson's insistence, written in a private letter, that there must be a "wall of separation between church and state" does not mean that religion has no place in our public or political life.

For one thing, by forbidding Congress from "establishing" a religion, the First Amendment is saying Congress may not favor one national faith to the detriment of other faiths. Unlike England, which declared Anglicanism the official faith, America was declaring that Catholicism, Protestantism, Judaism, what-have-you, must all be treated equally.

Also, the "free exercise" language means that citizens can "exercise" – they can practice, or not practice – any religion they see fit. It could be a traditional religion, such as Protestantism, or a non-traditional religion, such as Buddhism. It could be atheism. Provided the religion's tenets don't cause the worshipper to act in ways that conflict with established law (human sacrifices, for example), people could worship however they liked.

In other words, the First Amendment says governments can't favor one religion, nor interfere with one's practicing or not practicing one's religious beliefs. Period.

Which is very different from assuming the Founders wished to ban all traces of religion in our public and political life. In fact, they encouraged the practice of religious faith, including in the public square. Why? Because most religious faiths teach moral principles – the difference between right and wrong, good and bad. Moral principles positively influence human behavior, and the Founders believed that a well-ordered society depended on the good behavior of the citizens. And good behavior, the Founders also believed, would clearly come in handy when needing to enforce the laws, which they worried might be a problem in their new government, with its somewhat vague language regarding who enforced the laws, and how they'd be enforced. But it would be much less of a problem if the people were predisposed to obey the laws based on their religiously inspired moral principles.

In our Founders' America, all religions, although "practiced in various forms ... inculcate honesty, truth, temperance, gratitude and the love of man." So wrote the author of the "church and state" separation language, Thomas Jefferson, in his First Inaugural Address, after which he attended a church service.

Columnist Bruce G. Kauffmann lives in Alexandria, Va. His email is: bruce@historylessons.net

Assault weapons are again in the crosshairs

The 1994 federal law banning "assault weapons" was a high point of the gun control movement and Bill Clinton's presidency. Signing the bill, he said it was the beginning of "our effort to restore safety and security to the people of this country." But something happened that he and his allies had not predicted: nothing.

Steve Chapman

Duke University scholars Philip Cook and Kristin Goss, who are sympathetic to gun control efforts, assessed the ban in a book published this year and concluded, "There is no compelling evidence that it saved lives." A 2004 study led by Christopher Koper of the University of Pennsylvania agreed: "We cannot clearly credit the ban with any of the nation's recent drop in gun violence."

Homicides did decline after it became law – but they fell as well in the years after its 2004 expiration. From the standpoint of the safety and security of the American people, the prohibition was a non-event.

But gun control advocates, with a heroic disregard for real-world evidence, have never given up trying to get rid of these arms. The latest effort is a lawsuit filed by families of students and employees killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., two years ago.

The complaint says the maker and sellers of the AR-15 used by Adam Lanza should have to pay damages because in putting it on the market, they "chose to disregard the unreasonable risks the rifle posed." If they were held liable, the companies might also be ordered to stop selling it.

The AR-15 is too dangerous to tolerate, the lawsuit argues, because it is a military weapon whose "overwhelming firepower" and "extreme efficiency" serve to produce "maximum carnage." But the argument proves too much and too little.

If this gun has no place in civilian hands because of its destructive power, the same holds for plenty of other rifles that fire larger bullets than the .223 caliber rounds used by Lanza. If the problem is that it can fire rapidly, the charge applies to other semiautomatic firearms – which are the majority of guns sold in America. (This and other "assault weapons" are not machine guns.)

It can use a high-capacity magazine? So can millions of firearms omitted from the lawsuit. AR-15s are sometimes used to kill people, true, but it's handguns that account for most gun murders. By the logic of the lawsuit, any and all guns could be forced off the market – which, come to think of it, could be the point.

The implication is that if Lanza's mother had not been able to buy an AR-15, he would not have been able to wreak so much havoc. But Nancy Lanza could have bought other weapons that would have fully served his grotesque purposes.

What the lawsuit overlooks is that the vast majority of AR-15s have not been misused. They were sold to law-abiding citizens for perfectly legitimate purposes like hunting and target shooting. Banning them because a few lunatics may get hold of them is like banning Corvettes because some irresponsible buyers will drive 100 mph and end up in fatal crashes.

Central to the case is an old legal doctrine called "negligent entrustment." If I lend my car to someone who is visibly drunk, I can be held liable if he runs someone over. The plaintiffs want to use a novel version of that policy to punish gun companies.

The lawsuit doesn't say gun companies should be blocked from selling AR-15s to anyone known to be dangerous – which Nancy Lanza was not. It says gun companies should be blocked from selling to *anyone*, simply because some microscopic percentage of buyers will turn out to be mass murderers.

Some years ago, anti-gun organizations filed lawsuits trying to bankrupt firearm companies by holding them financially responsible for crimes committed with guns. It was the equivalent of suing Budweiser for alcohol-fueled violence or General Motors for traffic fatalities. Congress headed them off by passing a law prohibiting this type of liability.

Its judgment reflected the prevailing sentiment that the benefits of legal firearms outweigh the harms. The public and its elected representatives don't believe "assault weapons" are excessively hazardous or that eliminating them would appreciably hinder those bent on killing.

The courts are not likely to overrule those choices. In this battle, the gun control advocates have two formidable enemies: the law and experience.

Steve Chapman is a columnist for The Chicago Tribune.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service file photo

A federal judge on Friday threw out an Obama administration decision to remove the gray wolf population in the western Great Lakes region from the endangered species list, a decision that would ban further wolf hunting and trapping in three states, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. This is a 2008 photo of a gray wolf.

Some gray wolves to be returned to endangered list

By JOHN FLESHER
AP Environmental Writer

TRAVERSE CITY — A federal judge on Friday threw out an Obama administration decision to remove gray wolves in the western Great Lakes region from the endangered species list — a decision that will ban further wolf hunting and trapping in three states.

The order affects wolves in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin, where the combined population is estimated at around 3,700. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service dropped federal protections from those wolves in 2012 and handed over management to the states.

U.S. District Judge Beryl Howell in Washington, D.C., ruled Friday the removal was "arbitrary and capricious" and violated the federal Endangered Species Act.

Unless overturned, her decision will block the states from scheduling additional hunting and trapping seasons for the predators.

All three have had at least one hunting season since protections were lifted, while Minnesota and Wisconsin also have allowed trapping. More than 1,500 Great Lakes wolves have been killed, said Jonathan Lovvorn, senior vice president of the Humane Society of the United States, which filed a lawsuit that prompted Howell's ruling.

"We are pleased that the court has recognized that the basis for the delisting decision was flawed, and would stop wolf recovery in its tracks," Lovvorn said.

Fish and Wildlife Service spokesman Gavin Shire said the agency was disappointed and would confer with the U.S. Department of Justice and the states about whether to appeal.

"The science clearly shows that wolves are recovered in the Great Lakes region, and we believe the Great Lakes states have clearly demonstrated their ability to effectively manage their wolf populations," Shire said. "This is a significant step backward."

State officials acknowledged being caught by surprise and said they would study the judge's 111-page opinion before deciding what to do next.

"It's an unusual turn of events," said Tom Landwehr, Minnesota's natural resources commissioner.

The ruling is the latest twist in more than a decade of court battles over the gray wolf, which has made a strong recovery after being shot, poisoned and trapped into near-extermination in the lower 48 states in the last century.

Only a remnant pocket in northern Minnesota remained when the species was added to the federal endangered list in 1974.

The wolf is now well-established in the western Great Lakes and in the Northern Rockies, where the minimum population is estimated at around 1,700.

Animal protection advocates repeatedly have sued over federal efforts to drop federal protections in both regions, arguing that the wolf's situation remains precarious. Meanwhile, ranchers and farmers complain of heavy financial losses from wolf attacks on livestock.

A judge in September restored endangered status to wolves in Wyoming, although those in Montana and Idaho remain off the list. The Fish and Wildlife Service is nearing a final decision on whether to lift protections across the remainder of the lower 48 states, except for a fledgling population of Mexican gray wolves in the desert Southwest.

In her opinion, Howell acknowledged the issue inspires passions on all sides but said the administration's "practical policy reasons" for its action in the Great Lakes region don't trump the requirements of the federal law, which "offers the broadest possible protections for endangered species by design."

"This law reflects the commitment by the United States to act as a responsible steward of the Earth's wildlife, even when such stewardship is inconvenient or difficult for the localities where an endangered or threatened species resides," Howell wrote.

Births

Lakeland Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph

Benton Harbor – Boy, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, Victoria and James Hyde, 11:15 a.m. Dec. 16.

Benton Harbor – Girl, 6 pounds, 11 ounces, Shondice and Brioni Flemings, 8:38 p.m. Dec. 17.

Benton Harbor – Boy, 7 pounds, 4 ounces, Evone Tillman, 8:51 p.m. Dec. 17.

Benton Harbor – Girl, 6 pounds, 6.7 ounces, Melissa Hudson, 4:38 p.m. Dec. 18.

St. Joseph – Boy, 9 pounds, Jennifer and Masiar Tayebi, 7:21 p.m. Dec. 17.

St. Joseph – Girl, 6 pounds, 13 ounces, Traci and Jason Kachorek, 3:07 a.m. Dec. 19.

Three Oaks – Boy, 9 pounds, 1 ounce, Lindsey and Matt Shafer, 1:23 a.m. Dec. 19.

Obituaries

Anthony Hardy

Anthony Leon Hardy, 59, of Goodlettsville, Tenn., passed away Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2014, at Alvin York Medical Center.

Anthony was born April 26, 1955, in St. Joseph to Leon Morris Hardy and the late Shelby Jean Rutherford. Anthony served in the United States Marine Corps. He had been sick for a couple of years with cancer and lived in the Nashville, Tenn., area for the last 16 years. Anthony will be greatly missed by his family.

Anthony is survived by his father, Leon Hardy of Benton Harbor; his brothers, Robin (Rhonda) Hardy of Niles and Mark Hardy of Brandon, Fla.; sisters, Pam (Bob) Kurland of Tampa, Fla., and Penny (Reggie) Martine of Benton Harbor; and his children.

Donations can be made to Fisher House or any veterans' organization.

A memorial service is being planned for January 2015.

Cremation Society of Tennessee is assisting the family with arrangements, and online condolences may be made at www.cremationsocietyoftn.com.

Edward Woods Sr.

Edward Woods Sr., 94, of Benton Harbor passed away at his home Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2014.

WOODS

Hiscelebration service will be at noon Monday, Dec. 22, at Highland Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2075 Highland Ave., Benton Harbor. Visitation will be from 4-6 p.m. Sunday at Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Benton Harbor and from 11 a.m. until the time of service Monday at the church. Burial will be in Crystal Springs Cemetery in Benton Harbor. Memorial contributions can be made to Highland Avenue Community Service/Mission. Please share memories, messages or photos at www.florin.net.

Edward was born to Alexander and Ella Woods on June 27, 1920, in Marion, Ala. He united in marriage in 1941 with Lillie Ann Lee, and she preceded him in death in 2003. Together they celebrated 62 years of marriage. He retired June 12, 1978, after working at Superior Steel for 38 years. His remaining years were spent growing and selling produce from his farm. He particularly enjoyed selling his produce at the farmers market in association with the Berrien County Health Department.

He is survived by his children: Peggy (Scott) Hunter of Justin Texas; Eddie (Daniel) Akande of Silver Springs, Md.; Elizabeth Woods, Benton Harbor; and Edward (Edith) Woods Jr. of Berrien Springs; his loving grandkids: Christopher (Pam) Hunter of Frisco, Texas; Stanford (Nina) Hunter of Addison, Texas; Edward (Donnarie) Woods III of Grand Ledge; David Hunter of Seattle; Brian (Gina) Woods of Cordova, Tenn.; Edwin Akande of Huntsville, Ala.; Trishonda Woods of Berrien Springs; Jolayemi (Kabelo) Mochoge of Lindley, South Africa; and Rike Akande of Silver Springs, Md.; five great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, many family members and friends.

He was also preceded in death by his parents; his brothers: Nathaniel Woods Sr, Richard Woods, Alexander Woods Jr. and Emmanuel Woods; and his sisters: Sally McCreaven, Bessie Brogan, Mary Cutts, Ella Lee and Rosa Thomas.

Eloise Randall

Eloise N. Randall, 92, of Benton Harbor died Tuesday, Dec.16, 2014, with her family gathered around her bedside at Hanson Hospice Center in Stevensville.

RANDALL

She was born Sept. 9, 1922, in Watervliet to Edward and Charlotte (Brunke) LaMunion. She graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 1938, had lived in this area all her life, and was employed for many years at the former V-M Corp. in Benton Harbor, "The Voice of Music."

Eloise defined vivacious: always looking for the next opportunity to entertain family and friends, or to go out and be entertained. Her back yard was always ready for a barbecue cookout with games, and her car trunk was always loaded for a trip and a picnic. Kenny Rogers was her favorite concert destination, but she found entertainment every night locally at D'Agostino's Restaurant and The Navajo Lounge, or at The Mark or Country Kitchen. Saturday nights were for dressing up to look her best for dancing, and she was always prepared to win every joke contest.

She was married Sept. 28, 1946, to Vay Struble. Later, on April 30, 1984, she married George Boston. Surviving family includes George; a daughter, Cheryl Kaye (Don) Wilkie of Berrien Center; a son, Larry Vay Struble; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ed and Lottie LaMunion; a son, Kevin Dale, who died in 2011; her sister, Marie Spreen; and brothers, Gerald LaMunion and St. Joseph Police Officer Francis LaMunion, who died in the line of duty June 23, 1927.

Services for Eloise will be at 4 p.m. today at the Community Evangelical Free Church in Niles. Contributions in memory of Eloise may be made to the Benevolence Fund of the church. Arrangements were made at he Halbritter Funeral Home in Niles (www.halbritterfunerals.com).

Minnie Deja

Minnie A. Deja, 93, of Stevensville passed away Friday, Dec. 19, 2014, at CrownPointe in Stevensville.

DEJA

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 22, 2014, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 220 Church St., St. Joseph, with Father Jim Morris officiating. Burial will be at 3 p.m. Monday in Spring Run Cemetery. Friends may visit with the family from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at Starks & Menchinger Chapel, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph. Memorials may be made to Great Lakes Caring. Those who would like to share a memory of Minnie may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Minnie was born Oct. 1, 1921, in St. Joseph to Clarence and Isabelle (Einbecker) Scott. She married the love of her life, Frank J. Deja, on Nov. 11, 1939. For many years the two of them lived and worked on their family farm. Minnie loved being a farm wife. She was a dedicated member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, as well as a member of the Dashing Dozen Home Economics Club.

Minne is survived by her children: Joan (Andrew) Noble of Denton, Texas; Connie (Dale) Kubicki of St. Joseph; Philip (Leslie) Deja of Mount Pleasant; Frank (Deborah) Deja of Stevensville; and Scott (Bonnie) Deja of South Haven; 11 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and many friends at CrownPointe. She was preceded in death by her parents, Clarence and Isabelle; her husband, Frank; and siblings: George Scott, Lois Mischke and Althea Sanders.

Barbara Page

Barbara Jean Page, 70, of Benton Harbor passed away Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2014, at Lakeland Regional Medical Center in St. Joseph.

PAGE

Services celebrating her life will be at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 22, at Union Memorial AME Church in Benton Harbor. Burial will be in North Shore Memory Gardens. Visitation will begin at 2:30 p.m. Monday at the church. Arrangements are by Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Benton Harbor. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. Please share memories, messages or photos at www.florin.net.

Barbara was born March 15, 1944, in Benton Harbor to Donnie and Tella Page. She was an investigator with the Friend of Court for more than 25 years before retiring in 2005. Barbara was a longtime member of Union Memorial AME Church. She was a strong-willed individual who survived cancer for seven years.

She is survived by her children, Carmen Page of Benton Harbor and Carl (Andrea) Page of Kalamazoo; her brother, Donnie Page Jr.; her grandchildren: Karlyn Page, Kendall Page, Donte Hudson, Jasmine Hudson, Christopher Page and Carly Page; and her great-grandchildren: Keilan, Mason and Skylar. Barbara is also survived by her longtime caregiver and companion, Jesse White; her special niece, Devon Moss; her special cousin, James Isom Sr.; her goddaughter, Yvonne "Bambi" Alex; and her special friend, Phillip Harris.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Robert Grant Hill and William "Mudgy" Hill.

Wayne A. Schaus

Wayne A. Schaus, 57, of Coloma passed away Thursday, Dec. 18, 2014, at his residence.

SCHAUS

A memorial service celebrating Wayne's life, followed by a time of fellowship and sharing, will be at 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, in the Fellowship Hall of Coloma United Methodist Church. Donations in his memory may be made to the church, the Humane Society of Southwestern Michigan or to the family c/o Phil Joslyn. Those wishing to leave an online message of comfort for the family may do so at www.duffieldpastrick.com.

Wayne was born Oct. 31, 1957, in St. Joseph to Harold and Marietta (Schriver) Schaus. He was currently employed by Whirlpool Corp. as a national account specialist.

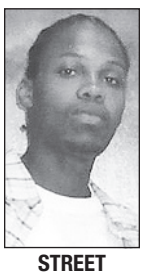
In addition to being a member of Coloma United Methodist Church, he was a member of the Ford Galaxie Club. He loved spending time with his family and friends, especially going to car shows in his 1964 Galaxie.

Survivors include his wife, Diane (Hafer), whom he married Sept. 4, 1982; a daughter, Marie Cowgill of Coloma; two sisters, Charlene Howard of Florida and Karen Sawyer of Coloma; four brothers: Robert (Laurie) Pecoraro of Las Vegas; Loren (Marge) Schaus of Coloma; Roger (Jean) Schaus of Muncie, Ind.; and Harvey (Karen) Schaus of Coloma; a brother-in-law, Phil Joslyn of Watervliet; special friends: Steve and Jill Miller, and Deb Watson; and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Louise Joslyn; brother, Dominic Pecoraro; and close friend, Randy Watson.

Richard Street

Richard "Cuz" Street was born Feb. 9, 1977, in Benton Harbor to Lula Street and Donnie Patton. He was a person who loved his family and friends. Richard worked many years at Hoffman Diecast in Benton Harbor.



STREET

Richard departed this life Dec. 8, 2014. He leaves to cherish his memories his father, Donnie Patton; four sisters: Maryann, Carmela Bell, Dontae Henderson and Cynthia Patton; three brothers: James Street, Marshall Depriest Sr. and Donne Boyce; stepdaughter, Brittany Campbell; brother-in-law, Lozerik Boyd; special cousin, Johnnie Hill Sr.; special friends, Carl Roman and Brian Lewis; his life companion, Brittany Ferguson; and a host of nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

Richard was preceded in death by his mother, Lula Street.

Services will be Monday, Dec. 22, at Family Funeral Home in Benton Harbor. Visitation will be at 10:30 a.m., and the service at 11.

Death notices

The Rev. John Bettig, 84, of St. Joseph died Friday, Dec. 19, 2014, at home. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

David F. Bowman, 73, of Benton Harbor died Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2014, at home. Family Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 925-9761.

Minnie A. Deja, 93, of Stevensville died Friday, Dec. 19, 2014, at CrownPointe in Stevensville. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Thomas Egmer Sr., 72, of Niles died Thursday, Dec. 18, 2014, at home. Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Barbara Jean Page, 70, of Benton Harbor died Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2014, at Lakeland Regional Medical Center in St. Joseph. Fairplain Chapel, Florin Funeral Service, Benton Harbor, 926-7222.

Wayne A. Schaus, 57, of Coloma died Thursday, Dec. 18, 2014, at home. Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home and Cremation, Coloma, 468-6000.

Ned Hugh Whitmore, 75, of Dowagiac died Thursday, Dec. 18, 2014. Clark Chapel & Cremation Services, Dowagiac, 782-2135.

Maryetta "Sue" M. Wilken, 86, of St. Joseph died Thursday, Dec. 18, 2014, at Park Place Assisted Living in Kalamazoo. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

www.THEH-P.com

Do you remember?

25 years ago – 1989

Josephine Johnson, M.D., has joined Kathleen Andries, M.D., in a St. Joseph practice providing specialized treatment and diagnosis of adult medical diseases. The team emphasizes preventative health care and supportive care of both physical and emotional aspects of illnesses.

Dr. Rae Holman, director of bilingual, migrant and community education for Berrien Springs public schools, has been named an Outstanding Educator by the National Association of State Directors. She is one of two Michigan educators to receive the honor.

35 years ago – 1979

Several dairy farm operators were honored for having high production from herds Wednesday at the annual meeting of the Berrien County Dairy Herd Improvement Association at the Benton Harbor Holiday Inn. They were Ray and William Clark, Galien, greatest increase in herd average milk production; Robert Strefling, Galien, greatest increase in herd average butterfat production; and Ward Shuler, Baroda, highest herd average in both milk and butterfat.

50 years ago – 1964

Hustling Newsies, old and new, tramped frigid street Friday to push the 1964 Good Fellow fund within sight of its $8,500 goal. A force of 84 Newsies went out on a mission to bring the amenities of Christmas to hundreds of unfortunates. They returned with $4,252.22 collected in the sale of special edition of The News-Palladium.

Today in history

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Saturday, Dec. 20, the 354th day of 2014. There are 11 days left in the year.

Highlight in History:

On Dec. 20, 1860, South Carolina became the first state to secede from the Union as all 169 delegates to a special convention in Charleston voted in favor of separation.

On this date:

In 1790, the first successful cotton mill in the United States began operating at Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

In 1812, German authors Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm published the first volume of the first edition of their collection of folk stories, "Children's and Household Tales."

In 1924, Adolf Hitler was released from prison after serving nine months for his role in the Beer Hall Putsch; during his time behind bars, he'd written his autobiographical screed, "Mein Kampf."

In 1963, the Berlin Wall was opened for the first time to West Berliners, who were allowed one-day visits to relatives in the Eastern sector for the holidays.

In 1987, more than 4,300 people were killed when the Dona Paz, a Philippine passenger ship, collided with the tanker Vector off Mindoro island.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Cloudy	Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Isolated Rain	Rain Likely	Snow Possible
34º	29º	36º / 31º	41º / 38º	43º / 33º	36º / 28º

Local Outlook

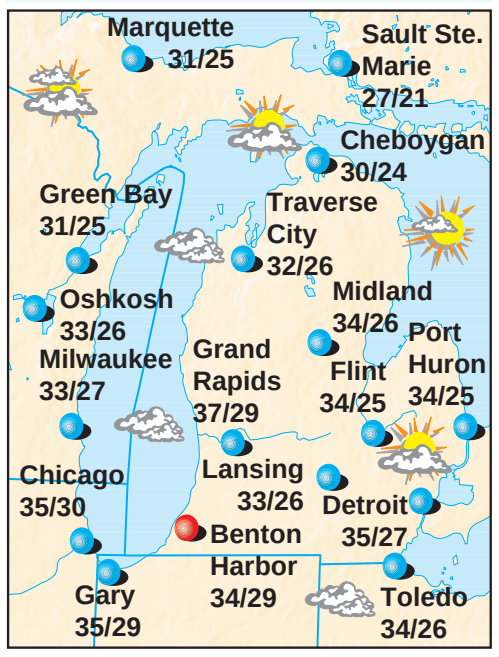
Today we will see cloudy skies with a high temperature of 34º, humidity of 75%. Southwest wind 5 mph. Expect cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 29º. South wind 5 mph. Sunday, skies will be mostly cloudy with a high temperature of 36º.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise . . . . . 8:10 a.m.
Sunset . . . . . 5:16 p.m.
Moonrise. . . . . 6:24 a.m.
Moonset . . . . . 4:29 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
12/21	12/28	1/4	1/13

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor yesterday

Temperature

High	35º
Low	27º
Normal High	33º
Normal Low	22º
Record High	55º in 1957
Record Low	0º in 1983

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.54"
Normal month to date	1.75"
Year to date	25.65"
Normal year to date	36.08"

Air Quality

Yesterday..... 20
Main Offender.....Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50.....Good
51-100.....Moderate
101-150....Sensitive
151-200..Unhealthy

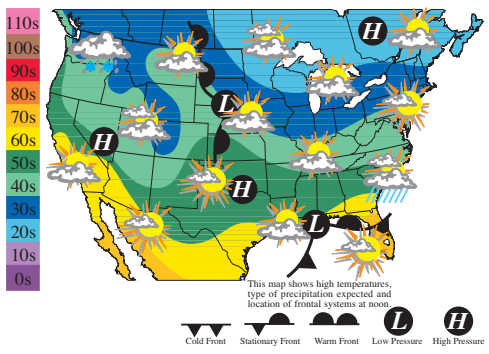
Weather Trivia

Do lightning strike survivors have difficulty with short-term memory?

Answer: Yes.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for Dec. 20, 2014



Lake Michigan

Today, southwest winds 5 to 10 kt. Slight chance of flurries in the morning. Waves 1 to 2 ft. Water temperature 35 degrees. Tonight, southwest winds 10 to 15 kt. Waves 1 to 2 ft.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today we will see partly coudy to cloudy skies with highs in the low 30s. South wind 5 mph. Sunday, skies will be cloudy with isolated snow. South wind 10 to 15 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be partly cloudy to cloudy with highs in the low 30s. Light winds. Skies will remain partly cloudy to cloudy Sunday with highs in the upper 30s. Light winds.

Photos by Louise Wrege / HP staff

Reserve Officer Elbert Dixon from the Benton Harbor Public Safety Department helps Jordan Higgins, 9, pick out socks during "Shop With a Cop" on Friday at Mejier in Benton Township. Jordan is a third grade student at International Academy at Hull. Helping pick out items is Luis Benitez, a junior at Benton Harbor High School and member of the school's Key Club. The Joique Bell Foundation sponsored the event.

QuWang-Tri Jones, a fifth-grade student at Benton Harbor's Montessori Academy at Henry C. Morton, talks with the cashier at Mejier in Benton Township while checking out his items after the "Shop With a Cop" event Friday. Helping Jones shop was Marvin Bruin, a supervisor with the Michigan Department of Corrections. The Joique Bell Foundation sponsored the event.

SHOP

From page A1

remote control car. He had every detail figured out.

"I didn't forget the batteries because I knew I was going to need them," he said.

Helping Jordan out were Reserve Officer Elbert Dixon from Benton Harbor Public Safety and Luis Benitez, a junior from the Benton Harbor High School Key Club. Benitez was one of 12 high school students who helped the children choose items.

Reserve Lt. Jack Fisher with the Benton Township Police Department said it was great to see the child he was paired with, Antwan Keller, picking out items not only for himself, but for other people.

"Antwan has already picked a toy out for his cousin," Fisher said.

Antwan, 8, is a third grade student at STEAM Academy at MLK.

Benton Harbor Acting Public Safety Director Dan McGinnis said his department has joined with the Joique Bell Foundation for years with the summer football program. This is the first year the foundation sponsored the "Shop With a Cop" event.

"It's part of our community outreach," he said.

McGinnis said he is in the process of reaching out to schools to teach children to have respect for all authority, not just police officers.

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Sony CEO worried for months about 'The Interview,' emails show

LOS ANGELES TIMES (TNS)

LOS ANGELES — Kazuo Hirai was worried. For months, the Tokyo-based chief executive of Sony Corp. had been raising questions about his Hollywood studio's plans to go forward with a film depicting the assassination of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

In a June 23 email, a Sony executive in Japan sent word to the studio, writing that Hirai was "very much concerned about this film" and its potential for angering the North Korean government.

Two days later, North Korea declared the film an "act of war."

More communications followed, including requests that the gruesome death scene be toned down.

Filmmakers Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg made numerous attempts to edit the sequence - submitting a cut on Sept. 23 and another three days later.

But Hirai was still worried.

"He really really hates it," Amy Pascal, co-chairman of Sony Pictures, wrote to a fellow studio executive Sept. 28. "He wants to say no he wants to say yes . he is deeply conflicted."

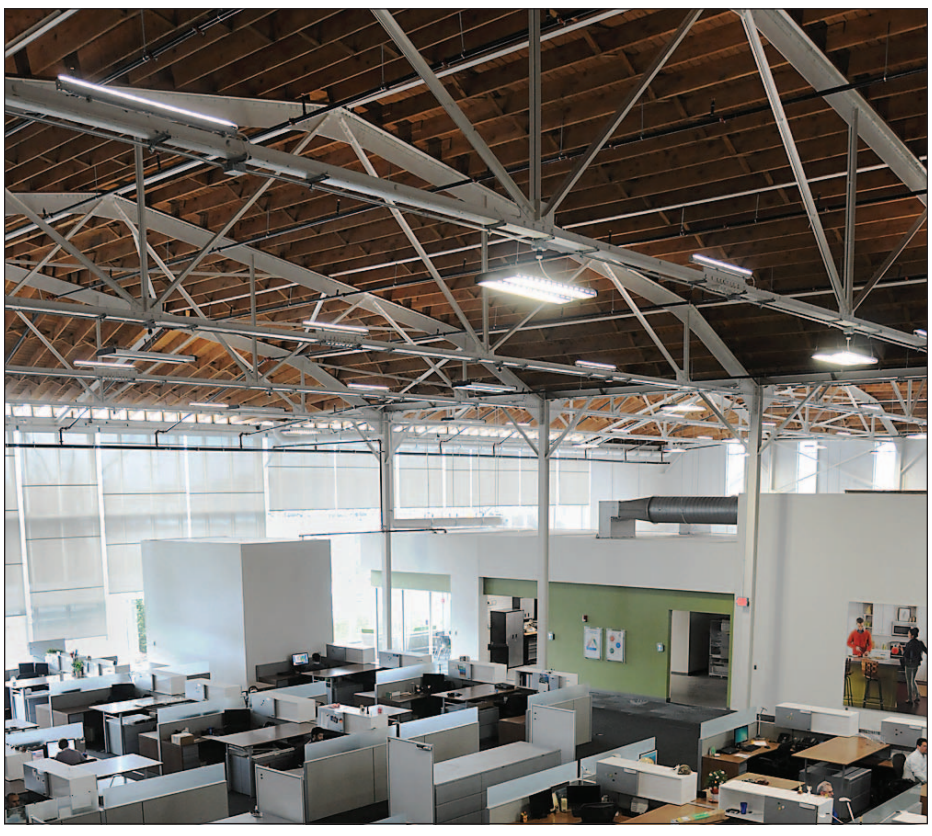
These exchanges were reviewed by the Los Angeles Times after hackers broke into Sony's computer system and released thousands of confidential files on the Internet. In the wake of terror threats to cinemas, Sony canceled the film's planned Christmas Day release.

The FBI on Friday said the North Korean government was responsible.

A three-decade veteran of Sony Corp., Hirai, 53, lacked a background in the movie business before becoming Sony's chief executive. Born in Tokyo, he joined Sony in 1984, fresh out of college.

Most of Hirai's emails with the Culver City studio involved the mundane aspects of running the business, such as box-office prospects for "The Amazing Spider-Man 2."

Occasionally, Hirai comes across as a wide-eyed Hollywood outsider. After attending an Oscar party hosted by Vanity Fair in March, he wrote to Sony Pictures Chairman Michael Lynton to describe it as "a sea of Hollywood humanity."



Don Campbell / HP staff

An open design encourages communication among employees at the newly renovated Whirlpool Benton Harbor Technology Center, formerly known as Plant 7.

WHIRLPOOL

From page A1

Development Corp.; Benton Harbor Mayor James Hightower and St. Joseph Mayor Mike Garey.

Finney told the crowd of local officials and Whirlpool employees that Whirlpool's investment is helping to create an attractive community in which to live and work, a key to attracting the best talent.

"This is a phenomenal investment. It's amazing the transformation I've seen in this community and our team is committed to supporting you," Finney said. "While I'm here, I want to hear some rumors about other things you're planning."

Fettig recognized Whirlpool retirees in the audience and said the company's earliest workers "built this company from the ground up, which helped pave the way for us to transform what was once a warehouse into a state-of-the-art global technology center."

He said the company is on track for 2015 to be "the best year in the history of Whirlpool."

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hp SPORTS

Boys and girls high school basketball results
Page B2, B3

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Defensive boost lifts SJ

Bears' zone limits Buchanan in victory

By AUSTIN BORNHEIM
HP Sports Writer

ST. JOSEPH — It is still a work in progress for the St. Joseph boys basketball team, but the Bears got what they needed Friday night.

St. Joseph 64 Buchanan 52

Guards Domoneke Mitchell and Jordan Brewer made good decisions with the ball and the Bears' defense was able to limit Buchanan's shooters.

The result was a comfortable 64-52 win for St. Joseph.

"We're seeing flashes of brilliance, but we're also seeing a lot of growing pains that we're going through with new guys on the floor," Bears coach Greg Blomgren said. "We made enough good choices tonight and played well enough on defense to get a win."

The Bears (2-2) led by two after the first quarter, but Buchanan's Tyler Flynn dominated play.

The Bucks' top offensive threat scored eight of his game-high 18 points in the first quarter as St. Joseph was unable to account for Buchanan's style of play.

"We didn't do a good job of finding their cutters or matching their guys on the weak side," Blomgren said. "We weren't matching up with their little set well."

Between quarters St. Joseph switched to zone and the Bears took control.

Brewer snagged all of his team-high three steals in the quarter and led a 14-4 St. Joseph run to go into the half leading 27-15.

Brewer paced St. Joseph with 17 points and three other Bears scored in double figures.

"It took them out of their rhythm and it worked well for us," Blomgren said.

The Bears piled it on after the break with an 13-5 run to surge ahead by 22.

The second-half run was brought on by three consecutive 3-pointers from St. Joe — two by Brewer that were

See **BEARS**, page B2

Don Campbell / HP staff
Berrien Springs' Micah McCree pushes her way past Edwardsburg's Breanna Baushke during the first half of Friday's game.

Hot shot Shamrocks

Berrien Springs girls pull away to beat Edwardsburg; boys fall to Eddies

By AARON GREEN
HP Sports Writer

BERRIEN SPRINGS — The Berrien Springs girls basketball team might have broken out of its shooting slump Friday night.

Berrien Springs girls 52 Edwardsburg 45

The Shamrocks knocked down eight 3-pointers and used a quick spurt to close the third to pull away and defeat Edwardsburg 52-45.

Berrien Springs trailed the Eddies 25-24 with four minutes left in the third when the Shamrocks shots began to fall closing the quarter with a 16-5 run to take control of the game 40-30.

Micah McCree scored nine of the points to help the Shamrocks (2-1 Wolverine West, 3-3) finally break away of the Eddies.

"We have not shot well all season and it looked like the lid finally came off the basket," Berrien Springs coach Nate Wruble said. "We took good care of the basketball, got some quick turnovers, and converted them into quick baskets during the run."

Edwardsburg boys 66 Berrien Springs 51

In the boys game, Edwardsburg got off to a quick start behind Dominic Razzano and made the lead hold the entire game, defeating the Shamrocks 66-51.

Razzano led all scorers with 30 points, including 13 in the first quarter, to get the Eddies going.

"He is our leader and keeps us calm when there is chaos," Edwardsburg coach

See **SHAMROCKS**, page B3

Don Campbell / HP staff
Berrien Springs' Jay Hall drives through Edwardsburg's defense during the first half of Friday's game.

Rushing does it all for Coloma

Senior standout leads Comets past S. Haven; Rams win girls game

Coloma boys 56 South Haven 51

South Haven girls 42 Coloma 27

By BEN SANDERS
HP Sports Writer

COLOMA — Coloma's boys basketball team is asking a lot of Auston Rushing this season.

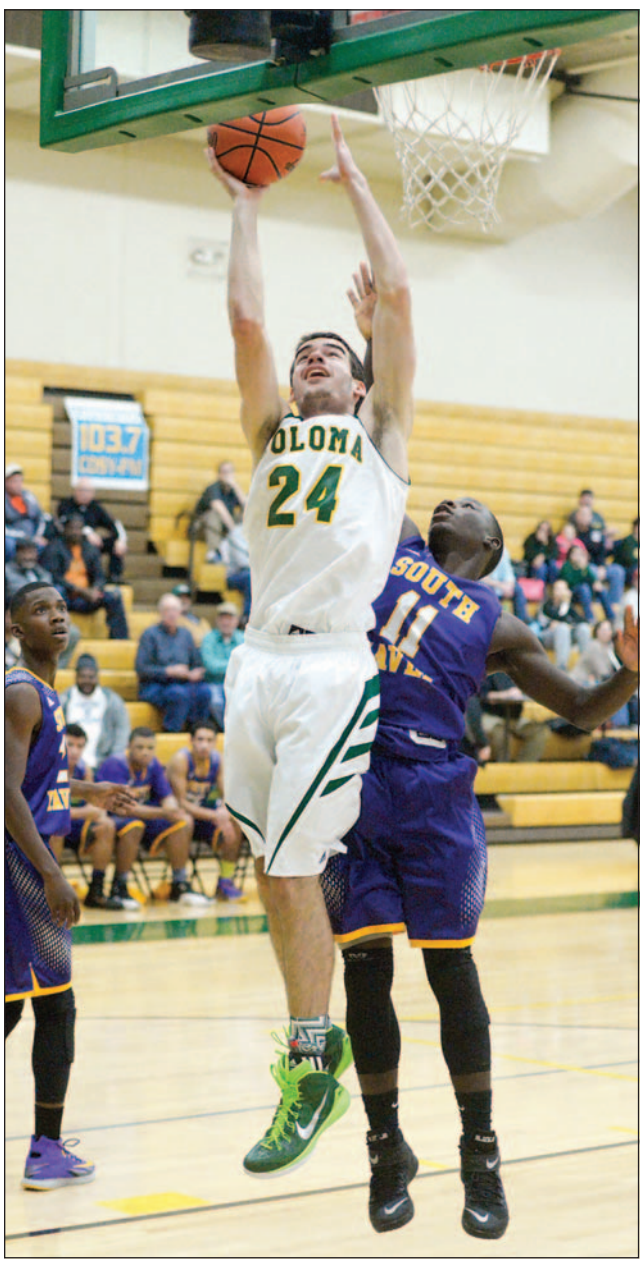
Rushing did it all in Friday's 56-51 Wolverine Conference West Division victory over South Haven, finishing with 34 points, 15 rebounds and taking on much of the ball-handling responsibility.

"He's got to do everything out there," Coloma coach Paul Marfia said. "He's asked to bring the ball up at times, he's asked to rebound, he's asked to guard their best player at times if he has to. He's stepped up to it and done a nice job."

South Haven won the girls game of the doubleheader, 42-27.

Rushing, who stands 6-foot-6, is listed on Coloma's roster as a "center/guard."

See **SPLIT**, page B2



Jody Warner / HP correspondent
Coloma's Auston Rushing takes a shot over South Haven's Spencer Adams during Friday's game.

Cubs, Motte finalize 1 year, $4.5M contract

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — Reliever Jason Motte and the Chicago Cubs have finalized a $4.5 million, one-year contract that allows the former St. Louis closer to earn $2.5 million more in performance bonuses.

Motte was one of baseball's top closers in 2012, when he had 42 saves in 49 chances and helped St. Louis reach the NL championship series. The right-hander had elbow-ligament replacement surgery in May 2013 and missed the season. He returned last season and went 1-0 with a 4.68 ERA in 29 games.

Motte is eligible for up to $2.5 million of $3 million in available performance bonuses under Friday's deal, including $250,000 each for 60 and 65 games pitched. He would earn $250,000 for 50 games finished and each additional game finished through 59.

He made his major league debut with the Cardinals in 2008 and had spent his entire career with the team that selected him in the 19th round of the 2003 amateur draft.

The Cubs went 73-89 last season and finished last in the NL Central. Their bullpen had a respectable 3.61 ERA, good for 15th in the majors. Hector Rondon emerged as the closer with 29 saves and a 2.42 ERA, but it was his first year in the role and Motte provides another option should the righty falter.

Also Friday, the Cubs claimed catcher Ryan Lavarnway off waivers from the Los Angeles Dodgers and outfielder Shane Peterson off waivers from the Oakland Athletics. To make room on the 40-man roster, right-handed pitcher Donn Roach and infielder Logan Watkins were designated for assignment.

Cubs and catcher Ross reach 2-year deal

CHICAGO — David Ross and the Chicago Cubs have agreed on a two-year contract worth $5 million, reuniting the catcher with frequent batterymate Jon Lester.

Ross often caught Lester in Boston during the past two seasons, including both of the left-hander's starts in the 2013 World Series victory.

IN BRIEF

Islanders edge Red Wings 2-1

DETROIT (AP) — Anders Lee knocked the puck over the goal line for a split-second in the second period, and the New York Islanders went on to a 2-1 victory over Detroit on Friday night.

Lee was credited with a tiebreaking goal after a replay review, and the Islanders held on for their fifth straight victory at Joe Louis Arena.

Brock Nelson scored in the first period for the Islanders, and he also had an assist on Lee's goal. Henrik Zetterberg scored for the Red Wings.

Detroit goalie Jimmy Howard left after the first period with an injury.

Raptors hand Pistons another home loss

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP) — Jonas Valanciunas scored 17 points to lead a balanced offense as the Toronto Raptors beat Detroit 110-100 on Friday night, handing the Pistons their 12th straight home loss.

Brandon Jennings scored 22 points to lead Detroit, which extended its single-season franchise record for consecutive home losses.

The score was tied at 52 at halftime before Toronto pulled away in the third quarter.

AIRWAVES

Television today

10:00 a.m. (NBCSports) **English Premier League Soccer** Aston Villa FC vs Manchester United FC. (Live) 🎧
11:00 a.m. (ESPN) **College Football** R&L Carriers New Orleans Bowl — Louisiana-Lafayette vs. Nevada. T(Live)
12:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **College Basketball** Southern Methodist at Michigan. (Live)
(FoxDetroit) **College Basketball** Charlotte at Georgetown. (Live)
(FS1) **College Basketball** Louisville at Western Kentucky. (Live) CC
12:30 p.m. (5) (8) (16) **English Premier League Soccer** (Same-day Tape) 🎧 CC
1:00 p.m. (2) (3) (22) **College Basketball** CBS Sports Classic — North Carolina vs. Ohio State. (Live) CC
(17) (28) (32) **College Basketball** Syracuse at Villanova. (Live)
1:30 p.m. (Csnch) **Skiing** USSA Birds of Prey. From Beaver Creek, Colo.
2:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **College Basketball** Illinois vs. Missouri. From St. Louis. (Live)
(FoxDetroit) **College Basketball** Orange Bowl Classic — Florida State vs. South Florida. (Live)
2:20 p.m. (ESPN) **College Football** Gildan New Mexico Bowl — Utah State vs. Texas-El Paso. (Live)
2:30 p.m. (FS1) **College Basketball** Crossroads Classic — Butler vs. Indiana. (Live) CC
3:00 p.m. (5) (8) (16) **Golf** 2014 Re/Max World Long Drive Championship. From Mesquite, Nev. (Taped) 🎧 CC
(Bigten) **College Basketball** Western Michigan at Northwestern. (Live)
3:30 p.m. (2) (3) (22) **College Basketball** CBS Sports Classic — Kentucky vs. UCLA. (Live) CC
(7) (13) (41) (57) **College Football** Royal Purple Las Vegas Bowl — Colorado State vs. Utah. (Live)
4:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **College Football** NCAA Division II Championship — Colorado State-Pueblo vs. Minnesota State. (Live) CC
(FoxDetroit) **College Basketball** Oakland at Pittsburgh. (Live)
5:00 p.m. (FS1) **College Basketball** Orange Bowl Classic — Florida vs. Wake Forest. (Live) CC
5:15 p.m. (Bigten) **College Basketball** Crossroads Classic — Notre Dame vs. Purdue. (Live)
5:45 p.m. (ESPN) **College Football** Famous Idaho Potato Bowl — Air Force vs. Western Michigan. (Live)
7:00 p.m. (9B) **NHL Hockey** Chicago Blackhawks at Columbus Blue Jackets. (Live) CC
(NBCSports) **College Basketball** Iona at George Mason. T(Live) 🎧
7:30 p.m. (Bigten) **College Basketball** Hy-Vee Big Four Classic — Iowa vs. Northern Iowa. (Live)
(ESPN2) **Women's College Volleyball** NCAA Tournament, Final (Live)
8:00 p.m. (FS1) **UFC Fight Night** UFC: Machida vs. Dollaway - Prelims. Marcos Rogerio de Lima vs. Igor Pokrajac; Renao Moicano vs. Tom Niinimaki. From Barueri, Brazil. (Live) CC
8:25 p.m. (2) (3) (22) **NFL Football** San Diego Chargers at San Francisco 49ers. (Live) CC
9:15 p.m. (ESPN) **College Football** Raycom Media Camellia Bowl — South Alabama vs. Bowling Green. (Live)
9:30 p.m. (ESPN2) **College Basketball** Gotham Classic — North Carolina State vs. West Virginia. (Live)
10:00 p.m. (FS1) **UFC Fight Night** UFC: Machida vs. Dollaway. Lyoto Machida vs. C.B. Dollaway; Renan Barao vs. Mitch Gagnon. From Baureri, Brazil. (Live) CC
10:30 p.m. (Csnch) **NHL Hockey** St. Louis Blues at San Jose Sharks. (Live)
11:30 p.m. (ESPN2) **College Basketball** MGM Grand Showcase — UNLV vs. Utah. From Las Vegas. (Live)

Sunday

8:30 a.m. (NBCSports) **English Premier League Soccer** Newcastle United FC vs Sunderland AFC. (Live) 🎧
11:00 a.m. (NBCSports) **English Premier League Soccer** Liverpool FC vs Arsenal FC. (Live) 🎧
1:00 p.m. (3) (22) **NFL Football** Kansas City Chiefs at Pittsburgh Steelers. (Live) CC
(17) (28) (32) **NFL Football** Detroit Lions at Chicago Bears. (Live) 🎧 CC
(ESPN) **PBA Bowling** Viper Championship. From Las Vegas. (Taped) CC
2:00 p.m. (FoxDetroit) **College Basketball** Creighton at North Texas. (Live)
3:00 p.m. (5) (8) (16) **Skiing** U.S. Grand Prix. From Copper Mountain, Colo. (Taped) 🎧 CC
(ESPN2) **Women's College Basketball** Kentucky at Duke. (Live)
3:30 p.m. (NBCSports) **Football** Youth National Championship. (Live) 🎧
4:00 p.m. (5) (8) (16) **Figure Skating** ISU Grand Prix Final. From Barcelona, Spain. (Taped) 🎧
4:25 p.m. (2) (3) (22) **NFL Football** Indianapolis Colts at Dallas Cowboys. (Live) CC
5:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **Women's College Basketball** Connecticut vs. UCLA. (Live)
6:00 p.m. (FoxDetroit) **NHL Hockey** Colorado Avalanche at Detroit Red Wings. (Live)
7:00 p.m. (9B) **NHL Hockey** Toronto Maple Leafs at Chicago Blackhawks. (Live)
8:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **2014 World Series of Poker APAC** From Melbourne, Australia. (Taped)
8:20 p.m. (5) (8) (16) **NFL Football** Seattle Seahawks at Arizona Cardinals. (Live)

Radio today

Noon
College basketball — SMU at Michigan (WSJM-AM, 1400)
5 p.m.
College basketball — Texas Southern at Michigan State (WCSY-FM, 103.7)
7 p.m.
NHL — Blackhawks at Blue Jackets (WGN-AM, 720)
7:15 p.m.
Boys high school basketball — Lakeshore vs. Otsego (at Coloma) (WSJM-AM, 1400)

Sunday

1 p.m.
NFL — Lions at Bears (WSJM-AM, 1400; WCSY-FM, 103.7; WBBM-AM, 780).
7 p.m.
NHL — Maple Leafs at Blackhawks (WGN-AM, 720)
8:30 p.m.
NFL — Seahawks at Cardinals (WSCR-AM, 670)

CONTACT US

The Herald-Palladium sports desk is staffed after 7 p.m. nightly. Coaches or managers are asked to report results as soon as possible the evening of the event for publication in the next day's edition.

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GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL SCOREBOARD

WATERVLIET 45, LAWTON 38

LAWTON (38)
Lexi Ackerson 3 1-4 8, Clare Lycan 6 1-4 13, Kristin Oxley 3 3-3 9, Kayla Elliott 1 1-3 3, Marisea Rimes 0 2-2 2, Mya Hill 0 0-3 0, L. Bowman 1 0-0 2, S. Hedges 0 1-2 1. Totals: 14 9-21 38
WATERVLIET (45)
Casie Gohr 0 1-3 1, Hannah Armstrong 1 0-0 2, Jayden McMiller 5 0-0 12, Lexi Elston 6 0-0 12, Lexi Kielt 5 0-0 11, Karlee Liles 0 0-1 0, Shannon Fish 1 0-0 2, Logan Mizwicki 1 3-6 5. Totals: 19 4-10 45

Lawton	**11**	**7**	**10**	**10**	**— 38**
Watervliet	**9**	**15**	**12**	**9**	**— 45**

3-point goals — Lawton 1 (Akerson), Watervliet 3 (McMiller 2, Kieft). Total fouls — Lawton 15, Watervliet 19. Technical fouls — none. Fouled out — Mizwicki.
Records — Lawton 0-2 SAC South, 0-5; Watervliet 2-0, 4-1.

FENNVILLE 58, BLOOMINGDALE 37

FENNVILLE (58)
H. Schneider 5 0-0 10, S. DeJonge 6 1-5 13, M. Phillips 3 7-8 13, S. Fuller 2 3-4 7, M. Mendoza 1 0-0 3, Ko. Oberhiser 2 1-3 5, K. Oberhiser 1 1-3 3, A. Deltora 2 0-0 4. Totals: 22 13-23 58
BLOOMINGDALE (37)
Heather Davis 5 6-10 16, Jordan McNees 2 7-10 11, Brandi Robertson 4 0-0 10, Hannah Harris 0 0-0 0. Totals: 11 13-20 37

Fennville	**9**	**21**	**9**	**19**	**— 58**
Bloomingdale	**3**	**9**	**13**	**12**	**— 37**

3-point goals — Fennville 1 (M. Mendoza), Bloomingdale 2 (Robertson 2). Total fouls — Fennville 19, Bloomingdale 19. Technical fouls — none. Fouled out — Harris.
Records — Fennville 2-0 SAC North, 4-1; Bloomingdale 0-2, 1-4

GOBLES 60, BANGOR 12

GOBLES (60)
H. Rock 5 3-6 14, C. Davis 1 2-2 4, S. Hunt 7 0-2 14, C. Pasek 1 0-0 2, H. Baxter 0 0-2 0, M. Nason 4 2-3 11, E. Doyle 7 0-2 15. Totals: 25 7-17 60
BANGOR (12)
Sarah Adams 1 0-0 2, A. Kaboni 1 0-0 2, Chelsea Byrd 2 1-4 5, Allison Weber 1 0-0 2, Ilexis Hernandez 0 1-2 1. Totals: 5 2-6 12.

Gobles	**16**	**19**	**17**	**8**	**— 60**
Bangor	**4**	**2**	**2**	**4**	**— 12**

3-point goals — Gobles 3 (Rock, Nason, Doyle), Bangor none. Total fouls — Gobles 12, Bangor 12. Technical fouls — none. Fouled out — none.
Records — Gobles 2-0 SAC North, 5-0; Bangor 0-2, 2-3.

HARTFORD 63, MARCELLUS 27

MARCELLUS (27)
Hudson 2 2-3 7, Zachrich 0 1-3 1, Goodrich 0 1-2 1, Wagner 1 0-0 2, Overley 1 0-0 3, Mihills 4 0-2 10, Fisher 0 3-4 3. Totals: 8 7-14 27.
HARTFORD (63)
Amara Wesaw 1 0-0 2, Mariah Mireles 7 3-6 18, Ally Sinclair 2 2-4 8, Tia Thomas 5 3-6 13, Monica Perez 1 0-2 3, Marissa Beraza 2 0-0 4, Cheyenne Findlay 1 0-0 3, Olivia Kling 1 0-1 2, Ciera Goble 1 1-2 3, Stephanie Scott 2 3-3 7. Totals: 23 12-24 63.

Marcellus	**4**	**8**	**7**	**8**	**— 27**
Hartford	**25**	**20**	**11**	**7**	**— 63**

3-point goals — Marcellus 4 (Mihills 2, Hudson, Overley) Hartford 5 (Mireles, Sinclair 2, Perez, Findlay). Total fouls — Marcellus 16, Hartford 14. Technical fouls — none. Fouled out — none. Rebounds — Hartford 38 (Wesaw 8, Sinclair 7). Assists — Hartford 10 (Mireles 4). Steals — Hartford 13 (Thomas 6).
Records — Marcellus 0-2 SAC South, 0-6; Hartford 1-1, 2-3.

GRACE CHRISTIAN 40, COUNTRYSIDE 37

COUNTRYSIDE (37)
Danyelle Bell 16, Cynee Williams 9, Shantel Thompson 5, Rae'kkya Taylor 4, Sam Carotenuto 3. Totals: 37.
GRACE CHRISTIAN (40)
Ellen Miota 15, Francine Barchett 15, Rylie Hess 5, Julie Wilkinson 3, Liberty Nevins 2. Totals: 40.

Countryside	**14**	**6**	**7**	**10**	**— 37**
Grace Christian	**12**	**10**	**9**	**9**	**— 40**

Records — Countryside 0-3 Red Arrow, 0-3; Grace Christian 1-0, 1-2.
Complete results unavailable.

PAW PAW 53, DOWAGIAC 30

PAW PAW (53)
Abby Krueger 2 0-0 5, Kayli Bowen 6 2-3 14, Kayley Buck 1 0-0 2, Alexis Ball 2 0-0 4, Allison Baney 2 0-0 4, Chloe Salman 5 2-2 13, Rachel Cook 1 0-0 2, Makayla Bamhari 3 3-4 9. Totals: 22 7-11 53.
DOWAGIAC (30)
Kandice Coleman 0 1-2 1,Taylor Hulett 2 0-0 4, Angel Parker 2 2-3 6, Jenesis Green 3 0-0 6, Asyria Geegan 0 3-4 3, Alyssia Allen 0 0-2 0 Mara Nelson 2 2-2 6, Vivi Lucio 1 0-0 2, Riley Daly 1 0-0 2. Totals: 11 8-13 30

Paw Paw	**12**	**19**	**11**	**11**	**— 53**
Dowagiac	**7**	**8**	**8**	**7**	**— 30**

3-point goals — Paw Paw 2 (Krueger, Salman), Dowagiac none. Total fouls — Paw Paw 16, Dowagiac 11. Technical fouls — none. Fouled out — none.
Records — Paw Paw 3-0 Wolverine West, 4-2; Dowagiac 1-2, 1-5.

EAU CLAIRE 27, RIVER VALLEY 25

EAU CLAIRE (27)
Toni Dunn 0 1-4 1, Colleen Carlson 1 0-0 2, Ashley Phifer 2 1-3 5, Taylor Dustin 5 4-6 14, Michelle King 2 1-4 5. Totals: 10 7-17 27.
RIVER VALLEY (25)
Breanna Alexander 6 0-2 13, Carlee Harrington 4 1-2 9, Ashley Jones 0 1-2 1, Emma Whitlow 0 0-2 0, Caroline Alden 1 0-4 2. Totals: 11 2-12 25

Eau Claire	**3**	**12**	**0**	**12**	**— 27**
River Valley	**7**	**14**	**0**	**4**	**— 25**

3-point goals — Eau Claire none, River Valley 1 (Alexander). Total fouls — Eau Claire 14, River Valley 17. Technical fouls — none. Fouled out — Randolph. Rebounds — Eau Claire 18 (Dustin 6), River Valley 21 (Alexander 5, Harrington 4).
Records — Eau Claire 1-2 Red Arrow, 1-3; River Valley 1-2, 1-3.

BEARS

From page B1

assisted by Mac Shimulunas.

"We made really, really good decisions pushing the ball and were able to get some rhythm shooting transition 3s and they went down. All of a sudden we were able to open it up a bit," Blomgren said. "Dom's (Domoneke Mitchell) decision making during that time was huge for our success."

Buchanan outscored St. Joseph 26-15 in the fourth quarter, but the deficit was too great to overcome.

"We keep fighting and got great effort from some of our bench guys like Isaiah Moore who made some big shots and had some steals," Buchanan coach Reid McBeth said.

Blomgren was pleased with his team's performance coming off a 58-point loss to Kalamazoo Central earlier in the week.

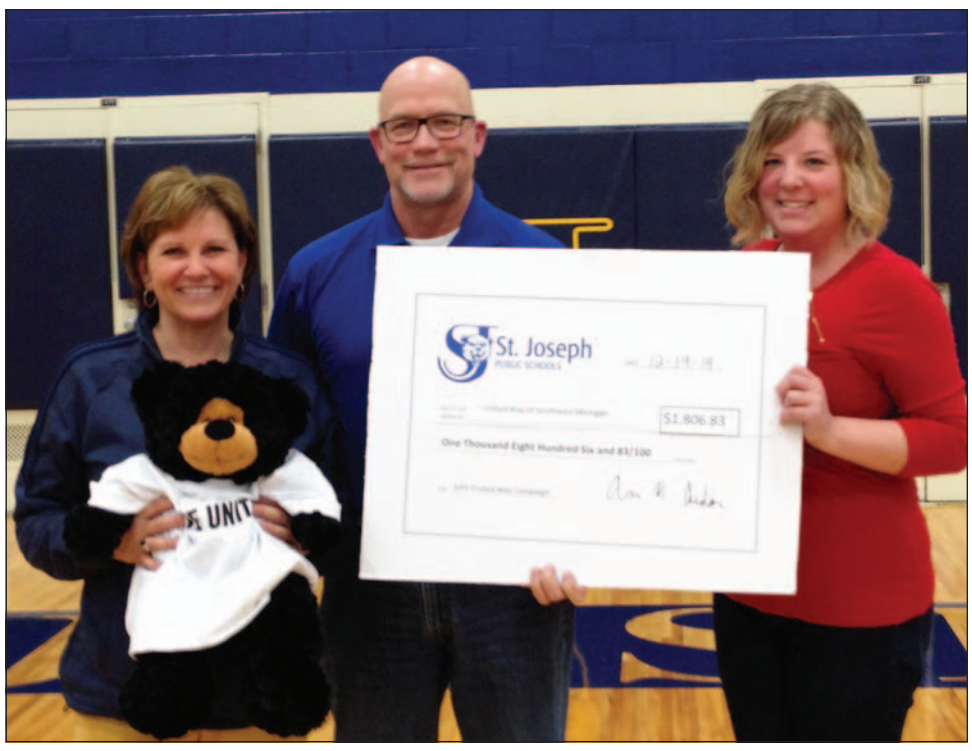
The Bears played tighter defense, and offensively they took care of the ball.

"We show our youth at times, we have a lot of new faces out there," Blomgren said. "To be where we are at going to the break 2-2, I think we're happy."

For the Bucks (2-1), they were unable to recreate the same type of shooting performance they had in their 31-point win over Brandywine last week.

Buchanan was able to get looks against the Bears' 1-3-1 zone, but the shots didn't fall.

"We had some wide open looks but they just didn't fall for us" McBeth said. "Sometimes they will fall, like they did last game, and sometimes it's like tonight and they don't."



Austin Bornheim / HP staff

St. Joseph schools superintendent Ann Cardon, left, presents a check to Ric Pawlawski, United Way director of resource development, and campaign coordinator Kelsey Shane, during halftime of Friday's boys basketball game between St. Joseph and Buchanan. St. Joseph schools raised just over $12,000 this year, which almost doubled the amount from past years. This is money that teachers raised in addition to individual payroll deduction pledges.

ST. JOSEPH 64, BUCHANAN 52

BUCHANAN (52)
Tyler Flynn 6 3-4 18, Bryce Vineyard 1 0-0 2, Josiah Smith 1 0-0 2, Jarrett Thomas 0 5-8 5, Aritjuna Scott 0 2-2 2, Dalton Riddle 3 0-1 6, Eli Lewis 2 0-0 4, Isaiah Moore 4 0-0 10, Dustin Gray 1 1-2 3. Totals: 18 11-17 52.
ST. JOSEPH (64)
Domoneke Mitchell 1 5-6 8, Jordan Brewer 6 2-2 17, Javione Ballard 1 1-2 3, Mac Shimulunas 3 4-4 12, Collin Morrow 1 0-0 2, Carter Scramlin 4 1-1 10, Sam Szwabowski 4 2-6 10. Totals: 20 17-25 64.

Buchanan	**11**	**4**	**11**	**26**	**— 52**
St. Joseph	**13**	**14**	**22**	**15**	**— 64**

3-point goals — SJ 7 (Brewer 3, Shimulunas 2), Buchanan 5 (Flynn 3, Moore 2). Total fouls — SJ 17, Buchanan 18. Fouled out — none. Technical fouls — Buchanan: bench. Rebounds — SJ 28 (Scramlin 6, Szwabowski 6, Shimulunas 5, Brewer 4). Buchanan 23 (Flynn 6). Assists — SJ 8 (Mitchell 3, Shimulunas 3), Buchanan 10 (Tim McCaffrey 3, Flynn 3, Thomas 2). Steals — SJ 5 (Brewer 3), Buchanan 4 (Flynn 2).
Records — St. Joseph 2-2, Buchanan 2-1.

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SPLIT

From page B1

"It's just a learning experience," Rushing said of his role. "It's something that I've really never done before. Every game I'm just trying to get better, and I think this game it really translated, all the hard work our team has done."

The game was close throughout. The largest lead was seven points, which South Haven (1-1 Wolverine West, 2-2) took early in the fourth quarter on a 3-pointer by Deon Cooper.

The Rams were ahead or tied the rest of the way until Rushing put back a rebound to put Coloma (1-1, 2-2) up for good at 52-51.

The Comets got the defensive stops they needed the rest of the way, and Rushing hit his final four free throws to clinch it. He was 16-for-17 at the line on the night.

Coloma got key contributions from other players as well. Caleb Hester hit a 3-pointer from the corner to tie the game at 44, and on the following possession, 6-foot-7 Jason Walter took a charge.

"It was definitely a great team effort," Rushing said. "That's the best we've played all season. We're just looking to get better from here on out."

Walter finished with 10 points and five rebounds despite battling foul problems, and the much larger Comets held a 37-16 rebounding advantage.

South Haven did get some key rebounds, however. Armani May put back offensive boards on two straight possessions to give the Rams a 48-44 lead, and after four straight points by Rushing, May scored again to make it 50-48.

Walter answered with a big dunk at the other end off a pass from Robert Lawson to tie the score. Spencer Adams made one of two free throws to put the Rams back on top, but after that Rushing put the game away for the Comets.

"We can look at a box score and say this kid scored so many points, which was good, and we needed that," Marfia said. "But there were so many other things that we talk about that were big. Rob made a great drive and a dish there at the end. Jason takes a charge, great box outs, him and Auston both were getting some big rebounds at the end and battling. Caleb stole an offensive rebound. There were just so many kids doing so many things."

Coloma will play again at 1 p.m. today against Fennville as part of its four-game holiday showcase. Other games in the showcase include Wyoming Godwin Heights vs. Wayne Memorial at 3 p.m., Wayland Union vs. Concord at 5 p.m., and Lakeshore vs. Otsego at 7 p.m.

Darion Gist led the balanced South Haven scoring with 11 points. The Rams compensated for their size disadvantage with good ballhandling, committing just four turnovers.

The South Haven girls team has struggled in recent seasons, but is off to a strong start this year at 3-0 in the Wolverine West and 4-2 overall.

"The girls came into this season with the mindset that they're tied of being the ones kicked around in the Wolverine Conference," new South Haven coach Joey Holland said. "Their goal is to win the division, because they want to at least play for that conference title. They're focused this year. They know they have a talented team."

Bobbie Goodwin led South Haven with 19 points and eight rebounds. Alaina Johnson added 10 points, and 6-1 center Megan Sollman had eight points and 12 rebounds.

Jody Warner / HP correspondent

Coloma's Ray Hart-Wilson brings the ball up the court during Friday's game against South Haven.

"Bobbie's definitely a key, especially down in the post," Holland said. "She's really big when we need rebounds. It's nice having Megan in there, because we have a 6-1 girl that gets a lot of rebounds and can deter girls from putting up shots in the paint, but then when you also have someone who's not necessarily as tall but plays physical in the paint, and demands to get the ball when she goes up for it, it's nice to have."

Coloma (0-3, 0-6) is facing a difficult season with standout Jenna Faultersack sidelined by a knee injury,

However, new coach Curt Mead was able to take some positives from Friday's loss. Coloma rallied from an early 6-0 deficit to tie the game at 14, and trailed just 20-15 at halftime before South Haven pulled away in the second half.

Morgan Wagner led the Comets with eight points, and Kelly Walter was the top rebounder with seven. Both are freshmen.

"We go with some young lineups, and even our older girls haven't logged the minutes in game situations," Mead said. "It is what it is.

"I'm really happy with how we played. Overall, it was one of our best games that we've put together so far from beginning to end. We look at it day-to-day. Did we get better today? Absolutely, we got better today."

COLOMA 56, SOUTH HAVEN 51

SOUTH HAVEN (51)
James Smith 3 0-0 8, Deon Cooper 4 0-0 9, Spencer Adams 2 1-2 5, Alec Washegesic 2 0-0 4, James Hedges 3 0-2 6, Darion Gist 2 5-8 11, Armani May 4 0-0 8. Totals: 20 6-12 51.
COLOMA (56)
Caleb Hester 2 0-0 5, Auston Rushing 9 16-17 34, Chase Moxley 1 0-0 2, Justin Pullins 1 3-4 5, Jason Walter 5 0-1 10. Totals: 18 19-22 56.

S. Haven	**12**	**11**	**16**	**12**	**— 51**
Coloma	**12**	**9**	**14**	**21**	**— 56**

3-point goals — South Haven 5 (Smith 2, Gist 2, Cooper), Coloma 1 (Hester). Total fouls — South Haven 19, Coloma 14. Fouled out — none. Technical fouls — none. Rebounds — South Haven 16 (May 4), Coloma 37 (Rushing 15).
Records — South Haven 1-1 Wolverine West, 2-2; Coloma 1-1, 2-2.

SOUTH HAVEN 42, COLOMA 27

SOUTH HAVEN (42)
Karissa Schnake 1 0-2 3, Jada Hooker 0 2-2 2, Bobbie Goodwin 9 1-3 19, Alaina Johnson 4 2-2 10, Megan Sollman 4 0-0 8. Totals: 18 5-9 42.
COLOMA (27)
Gabby Gordon 0 1-2 1, Tristin Hicks 1 0-0 2, Jackie Zvonar 1 1-3 3, Ray Hart-Wilson 2 0-0 4, Morgan Wagner 3 0-0 8, Kelly Walter 2 0-0 4, Paige Derrick 2 0-0 5. Totals: 11 2-5 27.

S. Haven	**11**	**9**	**10**	**12**	**— 42**
Coloma	**9**	**6**	**2**	**10**	**— 27**

3-point goals — South Haven 1 (Schnake), Coloma 3 (Wagner 2, Derrick). Total fouls — South Haven 10, Coloma 9. Fouled out — none. Technical fouls — none. Rebounds — South Haven 33 (Sollman 12, Goodwin 9), Coloma 21 (Walter 7).
Records — South Haven 3-0 Wolverine West, 4-2; Coloma 0-3, 0-6.

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HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Friday's Scores
BOYS

Adrian Madison 34, Morenci 22
Akron-Fairgrove 63, Merritt Academy 34
Allen Park Inter-City Baptist 70, Allen Park Cabrini 33
Allendale 55, Hopkins 42
Alma 55, Shepherd 37
Alpena 59, Traverse City West 49
Ann Arbor Central Academy 42, Dearborn Riverside Academy-West 40
Ann Arbor Huron 67, Saline 54
Ann Arbor Pioneer 60, Monroe 45
Auburn Hills Avondale 70, Troy 64
Auburn Hills Oakland Christian 72, Sterling Heights Parkway Christian 60
Barry County Christian School 65, Calhoun Christian 41
Battle Creek Harper Creek 72, Charlotte 60
Bay City John Glenn 45, Reese 40
Beaverton 42, Clare 41
Big Rapids 36, Grant 33
Birch Run 47, North Branch 35
Bloomfield Hills 61, South Lyon 39
Breckenridge 43, St. Louis 39
Britton-Deerfield 83, Ottawa Lake Whiteford 73
Burton Atherton 50, Morrice 35
Burton Bendle 63, Burton Bentley 50
Caro 71, Otisville Lakeville 57
Cass City 49, Memphis 28
Cedar Springs 61, Comstock Park 55
Chelsea 49, Tecumseh 30
Clinton 56, Whitmore Lake 45
Clinton Township Chippewa Valley 69, Roseville 58
Clinton Township Clintondale 69, Macomb Lutheran North 61
Comstock 64, Galesburg-Augusta 40
Coopersville 72, Wyoming Kelloggsville 50
Dearborn Advanced Technology 68, Newport Lutheran South 23
Detroit Allen 50, Adrian Lenawee Christian 48
Detroit Pershing 71, Southfield Christian 70
East Jordan 70, Bellaire 56
East Kentwood 57, Caledonia 40
East Lansing 51, Lansing Eastern 40
Elkton-Pigeon Bay Port Laker 45, Ubly 31
Ewen-Trout Creek 78, Bessemer 65
Fennville 60, Bloomingdale 24
Fenton 70, Swartz Creek 65
Flint Hamady 78, Genesee 34
Fowler 67, Ashley 20
Frankenmuth 63, Bridgeport 51
Freeland 65, Saginaw Swan Valley 56
Gladstone 54, Escanaba 40
Gladwin 49, Sanford-Meridian 37
Gobles 44, Bangor 43
Goodrich 57, Troy Athens 42
Grand Ledge 56, Okemos 48
Grand Rapids Christian 46, Holland Christian 43
Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central 70, Grand Rapids Forest Hills Eastern 48
Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern 57, East Grand Rapids 48
Grand Rapids NorthPointe Christian 80, Muskegon Western Michigan Christian 55
Grand Rapids Northview 67, Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills 41
Grand Rapids South Christian 51, Hudsonville Unity Christian 49
Grand Rapids West Catholic 58, Holland 39
Grandville Calvin Christian 54, Grandville 36
Gwinn 72, Manistique 33
Harbor Beach 69, Bad Axe 63
Haslett 48, St. Johns 31
Holland Calvary 85, Holland Black River 36
Holly 60, Linden 25
Homer 71, Jonesville 56
Hudsonville 52, Jenison 44
Imlay City 63, Sterling Heights 54
Ionia 66, Fowlerville 43
Iron Mountain 52, Norway 35
Ironwood 57, Ashland, Wis. 52
Ithaca 78, St. Charles 47
Jackson 55, Lansing Sexton 53
Jackson Lumen Christi 58, Jackson Northwest 36
Kalamazoo Central 82, Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 68
Kalamazoo Christian 76, Parchment 51
Kalamazoo Hackett Catholic Central 57, Schoolcraft 41
Kalamazoo Heritage Christian 64, Kalamazoo Phoenix 57
Kent City 64, Holton 53
Kent City Algoma Christian 47, Fruitport Calvary Christian 44
Lake Odessa Lakewood 44, Lansing Christian 42
Lakeview 69, White Cloud 30
Lansing Catholic 78, Portland 54
Lansing Everett 72, Holt 51
Lansing Waverly 53, DeWitt 48
Lawrence 79, Decatur 72, OT
Livonia Clarenceville 68, Dearborn Fordson 32
Lowell 62, Greenville 35
Ludington 62, Manistee 33
Marlette 50, Kingston 29
Marshall 61, Battle Creek Pennfield 40
McBain 73, Traverse City St. Francis 41
Middleville Thornapple Kellogg 55, Byron Center 53
Midland 59, Saginaw Heritage 37
Midland Bullock Creek 64, Hemlock 24
Millington 70, Essexville Garber 53
Montrose 55, Durand 42
Morley-Stanwood 62, Hesperia 47
Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart 53, Beal City 52
Muskegon Catholic Central 55, Wyoming Tri-unity Christian 53
Muskegon Mona Shores 75, Fruitport 35
New Lothrop 53, Byron 51
Newaygo 71, Reed City 68
North Farmington 64, Farmington 53
Northport 62, Cadillac Heritage Christian 20
Novi Franklin Roads Christian 58, Clarkston Everest Collegiate 56
Olivet 48, Stockbridge 45
Onaway 58, Rogers City 48
Orchard Lake St. Mary's 40, Hartland 36
Ortonville Brandon 36, Clio 30
Ovid-Elsie 45, Chesaning 31
Owosso 57, Mason 44
Parma Western 58, Coldwater 42
Paw Paw 69, Dowagiac Union 68
Perry 67, Vermontville Maple Valley 42
Petersburg Summerfield 43, Sand Creek 31
Petoskey 80, Cadillac 78, 4OT
Plainwell 68, Otsego 59
Pontiac Notre Dame Prep 61, Berkley 55
Port Huron 59, Port Huron Northern 57
Portage Central 52, Richland Gull Lake 46
Remus Chippewa Hills 59, Blanchard Montabella 32
Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest 53, Almont 51
Rockford 72, Muskegon Heights 69
Roscommon 62, Harrison 55
Royal Oak 52, Clawson 39
Saginaw Valley Lutheran 82, Merrill 27
Saugatuck 68, Martin 39
Sault Area 52, Cheboygan 35
Spring Lake 45, Grand Haven 41
St. Clair 68, Croswell-Lexington 26
Sterling Heights Stevenson 50, Detroit Country Day 48
Tawas 37, Oscoda 29
Temperance Bedford 42, Ann Arbor Skyline 38
Three Rivers 71, Sturgis 70
Unionville-Sebewaing 46, Sandusky 42
Utica Eisenhower 54, Rochester Adams 52
Utica Ford 60, Romeo 48
Warren De La Salle 64, Birmingham Seaholm 49
Warren Woods Tower 58, Center Line 44
Waterford Our Lady 80, Flint International 29
West Bloomfield 55, Macomb L'Anse Creuse North 49
West Branch Ogemaw Heights 51, Gaylord 38
Whittemore-Prescott 44, Pinconning 31
Wyoming 59, Holland West Ottawa 38
Wyoming Godwin Heights 85, Grand Rapids Covenant Christian 47
Wyoming Potter's House Christian 75, Wyoming Lee 34
Ypsilanti 56, Dexter 44
Ypsilanti Lincoln 70, Adrian 33
Zeeland East 55, Zeeland West 38 Saginaw Valley Tournament
Madison Heights Bishop Foley 59, Saginaw Nouvel 53
Saginaw 57, Midland Dow 48
Vassar 40, Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard 29

GIRLS

Adrian 33, Ypsilanti Lincoln 25
Adrian Lenawee Christian 66, Detroit Allen 35
Adrian Madison 59, Morenci 33
Akron-Fairgrove 56, Mayville 24
Ann Arbor Huron 58, Saline 27
Ann Arbor Rudolf Steiner 34, Marshall Academy 27
Auburn Hills Oakland Christian 34, Southfield Christian 5
Bark River-Harris 78, Rapid River 14
Bath 61, Saranac 38
Bear Lake 54, Mason County Eastern 20
Berrien Springs 52, Edwardsburg 45
Big Rapids 35, Grant 34
Big Rapids Crossroads Charter Academy 40, Manistee Catholic Central 24
Britton-Deerfield 63, Ottawa Lake Whiteford 39
Brooklyn Columbia Central 50, Onsted 17
Burton Bendle 54, Burton Bentley 15
Byron Center 57, Middleville Thornapple Kellogg 26
Caledonia 53, East Kentwood 51
Calhoun Christian 61, Barry County Christian School 18
Calumet 67, Painesdale Jeffers 33
Carsonville-Port Sanilac 48, Landmark Academy 34
Caseville 40, New Haven 13
Chelsea 57, Tecumseh 25
Climax-Scotts 34, Hillsdale Academy 25
Clinton 45, Whitmore Lake 27
Clio 48, Ortonville Brandon 44
Coldwater 48, Parma Western 38
Comstock Park 43, Cedar Springs 38
Concord 56, Athens 35
Crystal Falls Forest Park 74, Watersmeet 53
Dearborn Divine Child 60, Grosse Pointe Woods University Liggett 37
Decatur 47, Lawrence 33
Detroit University Prep 51, Melvindale 32
Dexter 43, Ypsilanti 17
Dollar Bay 47, Ontonagon 44
Durand 67, Montrose 25
East Grand Rapids 48, Holland 7
Fairview 33, Lincoln-Alcona 29
Fennville 58, Bloomingdale 37
Fenton 52, Swartz Creek 51
Fowler 46, Ashley 24
Frankfort 68, Suttons Bay 30
Freeland 66, Saginaw Swan Valley 41
Fruitport Calvary Christian 77, Kent City Algoma Christian 25
Galesburg-Augusta 46, Comstock 30
Gobles 60, Bangor 12
Grand Rapids Christian 62, Holland Christian 45
Grand Rapids Covenant Christian 49, Wyoming Godwin Heights 40
Grand Rapids Forest Hills Eastern 54, Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central 50
Grand Rapids Northview 41, Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills 27
Grandville Calvin Christian 52, Grandville 43
Grass Lake 49, Napoleon 42
Grosse Ile 54, New Boston Huron 34
Hart 44, Ravenna 35
Haslett 58, St. Johns 25
Holland Black River 60, Holland Calvary 10
Holly 54, Linden 35
Houghton 57, West Iron County 39
Howard City Tri-County 51, Stanton Central Montcalm 39
Hudson 27, Hillsdale 24
Hudsonville Unity Christian 47, Grand Rapids South Christian 37
Ida 53, Erie-Mason 21
Ionia 44, Fowlerville 35
Iron Mountain North Dickinson 73, Carney-Nadeau 55
Jackson 59, Lansing Sexton 40
Jackson East Jackson 55, Vandercook Lake 37
Jackson Northwest 49, Jackson Lumen Christi 33
Jenison 65, Hudsonville 52
Johannesburg-Lewiston 60, Gaylord St. Mary 53
Jonesville 60, Homer 59
Kalamazoo Central 79, Kalamazoo Loy Norrix 51
Kent City 74, Holton 36
Kingston 46, Marlette 41
L'Anse 59, Baraga 54, OT
Laingsburg 36, Pewamo-Westphalia 33
Lake City 54, Manton 39
Lake Linden-Hubbell 46, Chassell 29
Lake Odessa Lakewood 42, Lansing Christian 17
Leroy Pine River 60, McBain 46
Lowell 64, Greenville 52
Ludington 58, St. Ignace LaSalle 50
Mackinaw City 31, DeTour 30
Macomb Lutheran North 37, Armada 21
Manchester 42, Addison 23
Maple City Glen Lake 57, Mesick 24
Marquette 55, Kingsford 32
Marshall 73, Battle Creek Pennfield 30
Mason 50, Owosso 25
McBain Northern Michigan Christian 63, Marion 19
Michigan Center 43, Hanover-Horton 31
Midland Bullock Creek 64, Hemlock 24
Mio 66, Atlanta 16
Monroe 50, Ann Arbor Pioneer 43
Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central 41, Riverview 28
Montague 51, Mason County Central 38
Morley-Stanwood 53, Hesperia 9
Morrice 57, Burton Atherton 21
Munising 61, Powers North Central 31
Muskegon 54, Muskegon Oakridge 49
Muskegon Orchard View 63, Shelby 34
Muskegon Reeths-Puffer 57, Livonia Ladywood 23
Negaunee 46, Norway 38
New Lothrop 51, Byron 41
Newaygo 36, Reed City 29
Newberry 68, Rudyard 30
North Adams-Jerome 39, Colon 35
North Farmington 42, Farmington 22
Northport 33, Lake Leelanau St. Mary 24
Olivet 63, Stockbridge 36
Onaway 50, Central Lake 47
Ovid-Elsie 61, Chesaning 35
Oxford 49, Almont 4
Parchment 52, Kalamazoo Christian 33
Paw Paw 53, Dowagiac Union 30
Pentwater 40, Walkerville 36
Perry 58, Vermontville Maple Valley 26
Petersburg Summerfield 51, Sand Creek 43
Petoskey 43, Cadillac 40
Pittsford 76, Burr Oak 9
Plainwell 47, Otsego 44
Pontiac Notre Dame Prep 58, Madison Heights Madison 18
Portland 36, Lansing Catholic 22
Portland St. Patrick 43, Dansville 31
Posen 53, Indian River-Inland Lakes 20
Reading 51, Quincy 26
Richland Gull Lake 50, Portage Central 38
Romulus 39, Detroit Ford 33
Royal Oak 51, Detroit Jalen Rose 23
Saginaw Arts and Science 37, Au Gres-Sims 35
Saginaw Heritage 58, Midland 36
Saugatuck 41, Martin 31
Schoolcraft 40, Kalamazoo Hackett Catholic Central 37
Shepherd 36, Alma 31
South Haven 42, Coloma 27
Southfield 66, Detroit Westside Christian 10
Southfield Lathrup 48, Detroit Renaissance 40
Springport 55, Union City 30
Temperance Bedford 59, Ann Arbor Skyline 41
Three Rivers 55, Sturgis 37
Traverse City West 48, Alpena 16
Troy 50, Troy Athens 27
Watervliet 45, Lawton 38
Wyoming 74, Holland West Ottawa 69
Wyoming Potter's House Christian 48, Wyoming Lee 11
Zeeland West 45, Zeeland East 28
Zion Christian 50, Grand Rapids Wellspring 20

NHL

All Times EST

Philadelphia 1, SO
Pittsburgh 1, Colorado 0, OT
Carolina 4, Toronto 1
Washington 5, Columbus 4, OT
Anaheim 2, Montreal 1
Los Angeles 6, St. Louis 4
San Jose 4, Edmonton 3

Friday's Games

New Jersey 3, Tampa Bay 2, SO
Ottawa 6, Anaheim 2
N.Y. Islanders 2, Detroit 1
Winnipeg 2, Boston 1
Dallas at Calgary

Today's Games

Arizona at Los Angeles, 4 p.m.
Colorado at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Washington at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Florida at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Calgary at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
St. Louis at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

ISLANDERS 2, RED WINGS 1

N.Y. Islanders	**1**	**1**	**0**	**— 2**
Detroit	**1**	**0**	**0**	**— 1**

First Period—1, Detroit, Zetterberg 6 (Helm, Tatar), 8:49. 2, N.Y. Islanders, Nelson 14 (Visnovsky, Lee), 16:03. Penalties—Clutterbuck, NYI (tripping), 10:35.
Second Period—3, N.Y. Islanders, Lee 6 (Nelson), 10:41. Penalties—Kronwall, Det (hooking), :38; Tatar, Det (holding), 17:03; Clutterbuck, NYI (elbowing), 19:26.
Third Period—None. Penalties—Abdelkader, Det (tripping), 16:25.
Shots on Goal—N.Y. Islanders 9-16-7—32. Detroit 6-7-5—18.
Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Islanders 0 of 3; Detroit 0 of 2.
Goalies—N.Y. Islanders, Halak 17-6-0 (18 shots-17 saves). Detroit, Howard (9-8), Mrazek 3-2-0 (0:00 second, 23-22).
A—20,027 (20,027). T—2:21.
Referees—Brad Watson, Francis Charron.
Linesmen—Trent Knorr, Mark Wheler.

BOYS HIGH SCHOOL SCOREBOARD

BRIDGMAN 63, BRANDYWINE 50

BRANDYWINE (50)
Zach Schmidt 1 3-6 5, Andrew Boocher 1 0-0 2, Chandler Plew 2 0-0 5, Cole Searles 3 0-0 7, Andrew Duckett 3 3-3 10, Austin Knapp 4 7-8 16, Vinny Peel 2 1-2 5. Totals: 16 14-19 50
BRIDGMAN (63)
Nick Knowlton 10 16-17 38, Haiden Meyer 0 0-1 0, Daniel Koziel 4 0-0 10, Julian Sheriff 0 1-2 1, Luis Geraldi 1 0-0 2, Collin Gaishin 0 2-2 2, Shiran Patel 3 3-5 10. Totals: 18 22-27 63

Brandywine	**17**	**12**	**13**	**8**	**— 50**
Bridgman	**5**	**17**	**10**	**31**	**— 63**

3-point goals — Brandywine 4 (Plew, Scarles, Duckett, Knapp), Bridgman 5 (Knowlton 2, Koziel 2, Patel). Total fouls — Brandywine 20, Bridgman 20. Technical fouls — none. Fouled out — Duckett, Knapp.
Records — Brandywine 0-2 BCS West, 2-2 overall; Bridgman 1-0, 3-1.

PAW PAW 69, DOWAGIAC 68

PAW PAW (69)
Jacob Vorce 2 1-2 5, Nick Klingel 6 1-5 15, Parker Marcon 2 6-9 10, Jordan Edwards 0 2-4 2, Tanner Eubank 7 7-12 23, Collin Siwert 5 0-0 12, Ross Bech 1 0-0 2. Totals: 23 17-32 69.
DOWAGIAC (68)
Daquan Brooks 4 3-4 11, Harry Reed 5 1-2 15, Bryce Dodd 4 1-1 11, Brandon Winchester-Jones 3 0-1 7, Leroy Lewis 3 2-4 8, Tevin Fowlkes 2 2-4 6, Keoante Blackamore 5 0-1 10. Totals: 26 9-17 68.

Paw Paw	**10**	**23**	**23**	**13**	**— 69**
Dowagiac	**18**	**15**	**15**	**20**	**— 68**

3-point goals — Paw Paw 6 (Klingel 2, Eubank 2, Siwert 2), Dowagiac 7 (Reed 4, Dodd 2, Winchester-Jones). Total fouls — Paw Paw 18, Dowagiac 20. Technical fouls — Dodd. Fouled out — Winchester-Jones, Lewis.
Records — Paw Paw 2-0 Wolverine West, 3-1 overall; Dowagiac 1-1, 3-1.

COUNTRYSIDE 86, GRACE CHRISTIAN 30

COUNTRYSIDE (86)
Andrew Pittman 29, Jermaine Boxx 25, Filippo Marani 16, Quinton Rimpson 6, Mario Ortega Gonzalez 6, Rayyis Reed 4. Totals: 86
GRACE (30)
Joel Ross 10, Caleb Zimmerman 7, Phil Lewis 6, Nathaniel Bentham 4, Quinn Miller 3. Totals: 30

Countryside	**18**	**36**	**23**	**9**	**— 86**
Grace	**11**	**10**	**3**	**6**	**— 30**

3-point goals — Countryside 7 (Pittman 3, Boxx 3, Marani), Grace 4 (Lewis 2, Miller, Zimmerman), Total fouls — Countryside 11, Grace 9, Fouled out — none, Technical fouls — none
Records — Countryside 2-1 Red Arrow, 2-1; Grace 0-1, 0-4

WATERVLIET 68, LAWTON 40

LAWTON (40)
Bret Stermer 2 1-2 6, Brad Holcomb 2 0-2 4, Matt Williams 1 0-0 2, Austin Maynard 1 0-1 2, Logan Perry 1 0-4 2, Demetrius Cannon 2 0-0 4, GJ Yetter 1 0-0 2, Jarod Wimes 4 1-5 11, Cedric Birdsall 3 1-4 7. Totals: 17 3-18 40
WATERVLIET (68)
Ivan Winkler 2 2-4 6, Blake Kiekenapp 1 2-4 4, Matt Winter 6 2-2 15, Dylan Moser 2 2-2 7, Jordan Thibeault 1 1-2 3, Brandon Legon 3 1-2 8, Alex Leton 1 0-0 3, Zach Kiefer 0 0-2 0, Bradley Alden 8 4-6 21, Kevin Puntellera 0 1-2 1. Totals: 24 15-24 68

Lawton	**7**	**16**	**10**	**7**	**— 40**
Watervliet	**12**	**16**	**21**	**19**	**— 68**

3-point goals — Lawton 3 (Wimes 2, Stermer) Watervliet 5 (Winter, Moser, Legon, Leton, Alden). Total fouls — Lawton 20, Watervliet 21. Technical fouls — Williams. Fouled out — Williams, Wimes, Legon.
Records — Lawton 0-1 SAC South, 0-3; Watervliet 1-0, 1-4

GOBLES 44, BANGOR 43

GOBLES (44)
Austin Ampey 4, Shane Henry 1, Tyler Hunt 7, Tucker Harbaugh 2, Pierce Vreeland 7, Jake Tiller 12, Tyler Fuhrman 11. Totals: 14 14-29 44
BANGOR (43)
Jondell Jones 6, Enrique Peterson 4, Jacob Freislinger 5, Quinten Johnson 9, Lamar Clinton 17, Tyler Graham 2. Totals: 19 4-6 43.

Gobles	**7**	**10**	**12**	**15**	**— 44**
Bangor	**11**	**6**	**9**	**17**	**— 43**

3-point goals — Gobles 2 (Vreeland, Hunt), Bangor 1 (Johnson). Total fouls — Gobles 11, Bangor 18. Technical fouls — none. Fouled out — none.
Records — Gobles 1-0 SAC North, 2-2 overall; Bangor 0-1, 2-2.

LAWRENCE 79, DECATUR 72 OT

LAWRENCE (79)
Matt Cammire 7 10-13 25, Derek Gribler 6 9-10 21, Robert Pelaez 5 3-5 14, Hunter Coombs 5 0-0 12, Joey Rokos 2 3-7 7. Totals: 25 25-35 79.
DECATUR (72)
Carter Smith 7 4-6 22, Noah Rufo 4 2-3 11, Zach Boyer 2 3-3 7, John Grosvenor 5 3-3 13, Malik Underwood 1 0-0 3, Joby Kawaski 1 4-6 6, Matthew Botti 3 1-2 7, Kalvin Peterson 1 1-2 3. Totals: 24 18-25 72.

Lawrence	**9**	**14**	**19**	**20**	**17**	**— 79**
Decatur	**10**	**22**	**14**	**16**	**10**	**— 72**

3-point goals — Lawrence 4 (Coombs 2, Cammire, Pelaez), Decatur 9 (Smith 4, Boyer 2, Rufo, Underwood, Kawaski). Total fouls — Lawrence 23, Decatur 27. Technical fouls — none. Fouled out — Decatur: Pelaez, Rufo, Peterson, Kawaski.
Records — Lawrence 1-0 SAC South, 3-0 overall; Decatur 0-1, 3-1.

FENNVILLE 60, BLOOMINGDALE 24

FENNVILLE (60)
Svay 2 0-0 4, Alex Overhiser 1 0-0 3, Westenbroek 1 0-0 2, Aaron Overhiser 8 1-1 17, Polk 0 1-2 1, Alsaro 1 0-0 3, Adam Overhiser 2 0-0 4, Leonard 3 3-4 9, Martinez-Grigg 5 2-2 13, Scovill 1 2-2 4. Totals 24 9-11 60.
BLOOMINGDALE (24)
Derek Westerhoff 5 0-0 12, Tyler Davis 0 1-2 1, William Mills 2 0-0 4, Austin Martin 0 3-4 3, Tony Gillette, Austin Bertuca, Casey Dolfin 1 0-0 2, Sam Siler, Wyatt McNees 1 0-1 2..Totals: 9 4-7 24.

Fennville	**21**	**12**	**21**	**6**	**— 60**
Bloom	**2**	**9**	**2**	**11**	**— 24**

3-point goals — Fennville 3 (Alex Overhiser, Alfaro, Martinez-Gregg), Bloomingdale 2 (Westerhoff 2). Total fouls — Fennville 12, Bloomingdale 10. Fouled out — none. Technical fouls — none. Steals — Westerhoff.
Records — Fennville 1-0 SAC North, 3-1; Bloomingdale 0-1, 0-3.
Thursday's results

CONSTANTINE 68, NEW BUFFALO 65

NEW BUFFALO (65)
Elisha Dryden 8 8-14 19, Zac Workman 1 1-3 3, Clayton Artz 1 0-1 2, Marques Artz 4 0-1 8, Jarek Hotwagner 8 0-0 16, Travis Maddux 6 1-2 17. Totals: 28 5-9 65.
CONSTANTINE (68)
Joey Steiner 4 1-2 12, Anthony Bontrager 1 0-0 2, Perry White 9 1-1 24, Tyler Shank 2 4-7 8, Cody Ley 7 5-8 20, Noah Beegle 1 0-0 2. Totals: 24 11-18 68.

New Buffalo	**14**	**12**	**23**	**16**	**— 65**
Constantine	**17**	**18**	**13**	**20**	**— 68**

3-point goals — New Buffalo 4 (Maddux 4), Constantine 9 (White 5, Steiner 3, Ley). Total fouls — New Buffalo 16, Constantine 12. Fouled out — M. Artz (NB).
Record — New Buffalo 1-2.

EDWARDSBURG 66, BERRIEN SPRINGS 51

EDWARDSBURG (66)
Derek Pierce 2 2-2 4, Dante Razzano 9 12-14 30, Jackson Gaideski 3 6-10 12, Shane Streb 1 0-0 2, Joe Queener 2 2-2 4, Adam Kozinski 1 0-0 3, Dalton Raymond 1 0-0 2, Ben Roberston 0 1-2 1, Isaac Vite 0 4-4 4. Totals: 19 27-34 66
BERRIEN SPRINGS (51)
T.J. Jones 3 1-2 7, Brant Rago 2 0-0 4, Bo Taylor 5 1-2 11, Antwan Mims 1 0-0 2, Devan Nichols 3 1-4 8, Jay Hall 1 0-0 2, Montrell Pullian 3 0-2 6, Brian Shembarger 1 0-0 2, James Robinson 1 0-0 2. Totals: 22 3-10 51

Edwardsburg	**19**	**17**	**16**	**14**	**— 66**
Berrien Springs	**13**	**14**	**15**	**9**	**— 51**

3-point goals — Edwardsburg 1 (Kozinski), Berrien Springs 4 (Johnson 2, Nichols, Robinson), Total fouls — Edwardsburg 10, Berrien Springs 22, Fouled out — none, Technical fouls — none, Rebounds — Edwardsburg 39, Berrien Springs 29
Records — Edawrdsburg 1-1 Wolverine West 2-1, Berrien Springs 0-2, 0-4.

BERRIEN SPRINGS 52, EDWARDSBURG 45

EDWARDSBURG (45)
Michaela Ritschard 1 0-0 2, Savannah Dixon 9 0-4 22, Katelynn Rogers 1 0-0 2, Noelle Krauss 5 2-2 13, Alise Markel 3 0-2 6. Totals: 19 2-10 45
BERRIEN SPRINGS (52)
Amanda Forraht 2 2-3 8, Micah McCree 5 3-6 17, Tyanna Pierce 5 4-6 16, Gabby Yankey 3 1-2 7, Mara McFarland 0 0-1 0, Ariyona Palmer 1 0-0 2. Totals: 16 10-18 52

Edwardsburg	**7**	**14**	**9**	**15**	**— 45**
Berrein Springs	**7**	**17**	**16**	**12**	**— 52**

3-point goals — Edwardsburg 5 (Dixon 4, Krauss), Berrien Springs 8 (McCree 4, Forraht 2, Pierce 2), Total fouls — Edwardsburg 18, Berrien Springs 15, Fouled out — Markel (E), Technical fouls — none, Rebounds — Edwardsburg 29, Berrien Springs 29
Records —Edwardsburg 0-3 Wolverine West 0-5; Berrien Springs 2-1, 3-3

SHAMROCKS

From page B1

Steve Wright said.

The girls game saw both teams struggle to score throughout the first quarter with the game tied at seven.

The second quarter saw the offense pick up, but neither team could make any kind of run to build a large lead.

Berrien held a close 24-21 lead at the half.

Berrien hit five of its eight 3-pointers in the first half as the Eddies left open shooters on the wing.

"I have watched the film and they do not shoot 3s like that normally," Edwardsburg coach Nicole Cartwright said. "Those were the big difference in the game along with our turnovers."

The Eddies (0-3, 0-5) started the third strong coming from behind to take a 25-24 lead, but then the Shamrock defense began to force turnovers.

Berrien Springs converted those into points and began to slowly pull away from the Eddies.

The Shamrocks were aggressive driving to the basket to earn foul shots and getting the Eddies in foul trouble.

By the end, the Shamrocks had pushed the lead to double digits and held on for the win.

Berrien slowed the game down in the fourth to run clock and went 4-of-6 from the line to preserve the win.

"When we had the lead, the girls did a great job of slowing the pace down and passing up good jump shots to run clock or get a layup," Wruble said.

McCree led the Shamrocks with 17 points and Pierce added 16 points.

Savannah Dixon had a game-high 22 points to lead the Eddies and Noelle Krauss chipped in 13 points.

The boys game saw Edwardsburg take a quick 8-3 lead and never trail.

The Eddies were able to consistently penetrate the seams of the Shamrock 2-3 zone forcing Berrien Springs to collapse and rotate defensively leaving opportunities on the offensive glass.

When Edwardsburg (1-1 Wolverine West, 2-1) did miss, the Eddies cam up with 14 offensive rebounds and multiple second chances.

"It was a matter of finding the seasons, but also making quick decisions with the ball because of their quickness and ability to recover," Wright said. "We did not shoot the ball very well tonight so we needed every one of those second shots."

Edwardsburg out rebounded Berrien Springs 39-29 for the game.

The Shamrocks (0-2, 0-4) never get any closer than three points which it did only once as every time it tried to make a run, the Eddies had an answer to push the lead back out.

Once Edwardsburg built the lead into double digits, the Eddies slowed the game down the last five minutes to run out the clock and earn the win.

Berrien Springs could not stop Razzano from penetrating and either scoring or setting up his teammates.

Razzano finished with a game high 30 points and handed out six assists.

With the Eddies attacking the rim, Berrien was forced to foul as Edwardsburg went to the line 34 times knocking down 27 of the free throws.

"That is our focus," Wright said. "When you go to the line you have to hit them to make them pay."

Bo Taylor was the only Shamrock in double figures finishing with 11 points.

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New Years Eve: 9:00am-12:00pm & 1:30pm-4:00pm • New Years Day: Closed

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Name:_____ Phone:_____
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- Free items or pets must have "Free" included
- Price must be included in the ad and must be less than $500
- Multiple items accepted but must total $500 or less
- Limit 1 ad per household per calendar month
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Fax to: 269-429-8344
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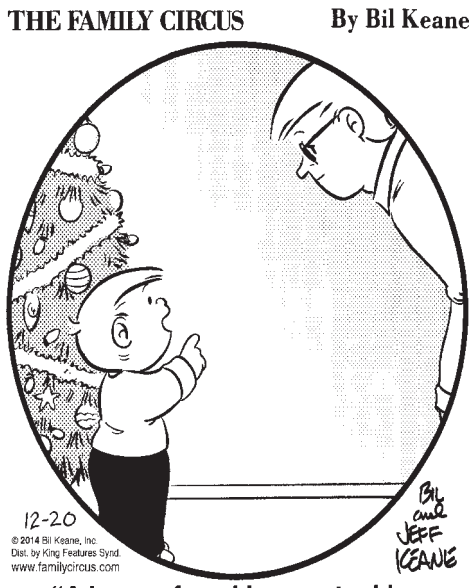
BEETLE BAILEY

DO YOU ANSWER TO A HIGHER POWER, CHAPLAIN?
YES
IF I CAN SIGN UP WITH A HIGHER POWER, THEN I DON'T TAKE ORDERS FROM A LOWER POWER, RIGHT ?
12-20
©2014 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
WWW.BEETLEBAILEY.COM
GREG+ MORT WALKER

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"A lump of coal in my stocking wouldn't be so bad if it was licorice-flavored!"

DENNIS THE MENACE

"I'VE BEEN GOOD, BUT MY MOM DESERVES MOST OF THE CREDIT."

BLONDIE

HERE YOU ARE... THAT'LL BE FIVE DOLLARS
FIVE DOLLARS?!
GIFT WRAPPING
I THOUGHT GIFT WRAPPING WAS COMPLIMENTARY
ORDINARILY IT IS...
GIFT WRAPPING
THE FIVE DOLLARS IS FOR THE HEAVY SIGHING YOU WERE DOING WHILE YOU WERE WAITING
WELL, YOU DID TAKE YOUR SWEET TIME WRAPPING THAT LITTLE BOX
12-20
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www.Blondie.com

BABY BLUES

LET ME IN!
YOU CAN'T COME IN HERE WITHOUT SOME FORM OF I.D.!
MOM! HAMMIE IS THE ONE WHO PUT SHAVING CREAM ON THE TOILET SEAT!
;SIGH; IDENTITY CONFIRMED.
I SHOULD HOPE SO.
HAMMIE & SCOUT

HI & LOIS

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
I'M SUPPOSED TO TELL MY MOM IF ANYONE GETS TOO "CHEERFUL."
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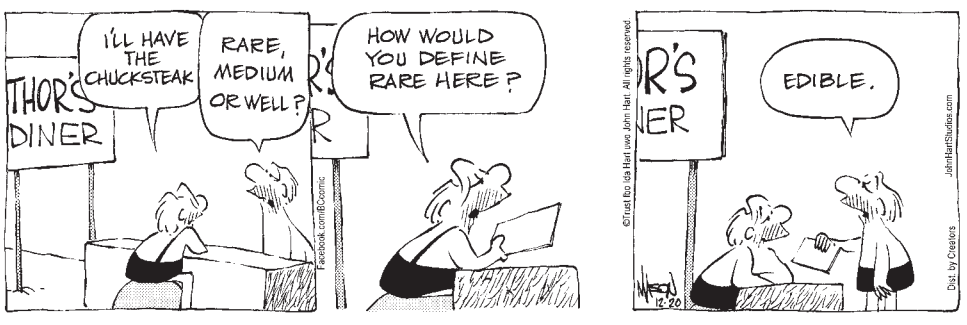
12-20

BC



CURTIS

CHUTNEY, YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN HOW DUMB BARRY LOOKED SITTIN' ON SANTA'S LAP!
www.billingsleyart.com
CURTIS WOULDN'T DO IT!
COURSE NOT! I'M TOO COOL FOR THAT BABY GUFF!
NO, 'CAUSE IF SANTA ASKED IF HE HAD BEEN A GOOD BOY, AND HE SAID "YES", IT WOULD BE A LIE!! CURTIS HAS BEEN BAD ALL YEAR LONG!
12-20
I'M SURPRISED HE CAN EVEN ENTER THE CHURCH WITHOUT BURSTING INTO FLAMES!
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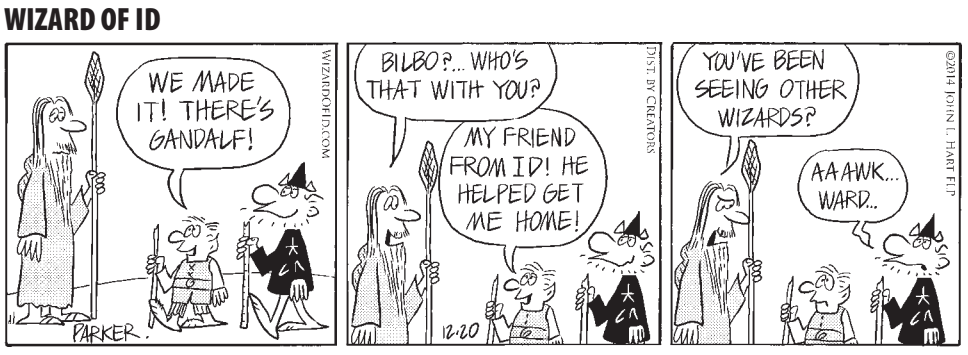
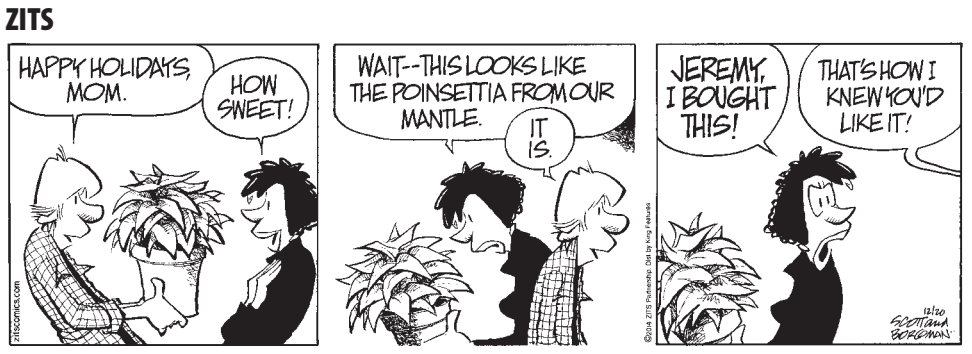
TOM WILEY

WIZARD OF ID


WE MADE IT! THERE'S GANDALF!
PARKER
BILBO?... WHO'S THAT WITH YOU?
MY FRIEND FROM ID! HE HELPED GET ME HOME!
12-20
DIST BY CREATORS
YOU'VE BEEN SEEING OTHER WIZARDS?
AAAWK... WARD...
©2014 JOHN L. HART FLP

ZITS


HAPPY HOLIDAYS, MOM.
HOW SWEET!
WAIT--THIS LOOKS LIKE THE POINSETTIA FROM OUR MANTLE.
IT IS.
JEREMY, I BOUGHT THIS!
THAT'S HOW I KNEW YOU'D LIKE IT!
SCOTT & BORGMAN

DILBERT

I HEARD YOU HAD A FREAK ACCIDENT WHILE VACUUMING YOUR HOUSE NAKED.
Dilbert.com DilbertCartoonist@gmail.com
THAT'S A RUMOR. I DON'T KNOW HOW THAT STUFF SPREADS.
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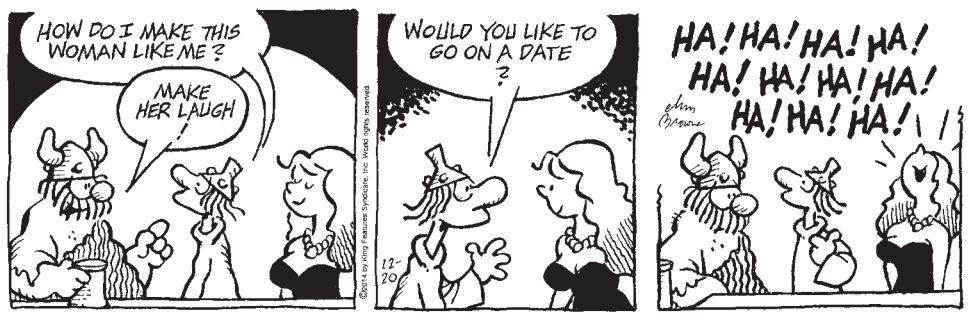
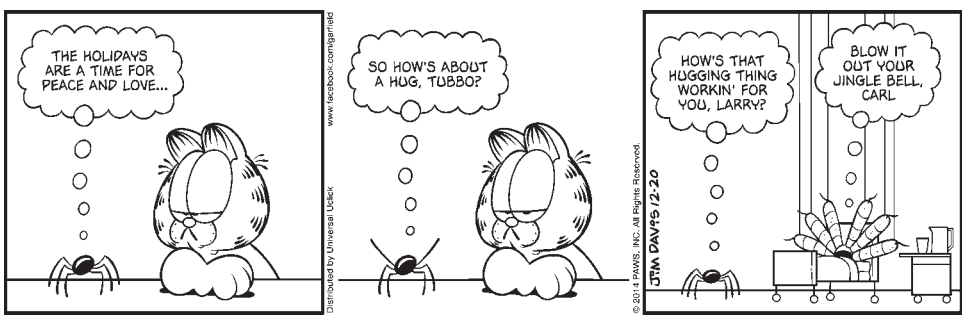
12-20-14
NOW I FEEL A LITTLE BAD THAT I TOLD THIRTY PEOPLE.

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE


HOW DO I MAKE THIS WOMAN LIKE ME?
MAKE HER LAUGH
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO ON A DATE ?
12-20
©2014 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!

GARFIELD


THE HOLIDAYS ARE A TIME FOR PEACE AND LOVE...
SO HOW'S ABOUT A HUG, TUBBO?
Distributed by Universal Uclick
www.facebook.com/garfield
HOW'S THAT HUGGING THING WORKIN' FOR YOU, LARRY?
BLOW IT OUT YOUR JINGLE BELL, CARL
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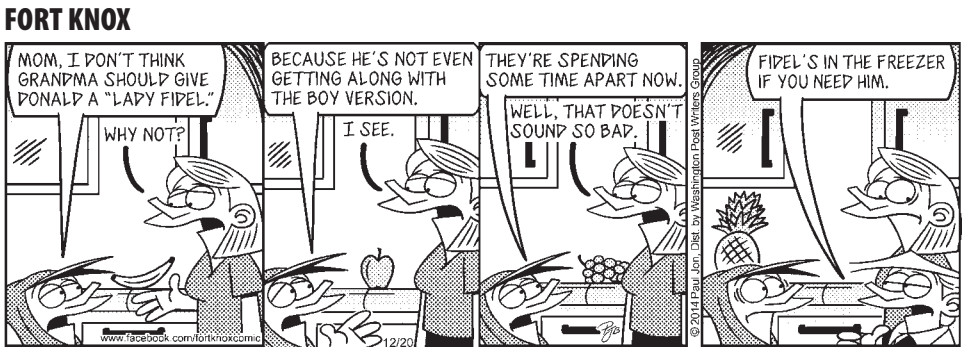
JIM DAVIS 12-20

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

MEET Santa
TAKE IT FROM ME, NOTHING IS WHAT IT SEEMS.
©2014 Grimmy, Inc. Distributed by King Features Inc. grimmy.com
12/20
THREE PEDERS

FORT KNOX


MOM, I DON'T THINK GRANDMA SHOULD GIVE DONALD A "LADY FIDEL."
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE HE'S NOT EVEN GETTING ALONG WITH THE BOY VERSION.
I SEE.
THEY'RE SPENDING SOME TIME APART NOW.
WELL, THAT DOESN'T SOUND SO BAD.
12/20
www.facebook.com/fortknoxcomic
FIDEL'S IN THE FREEZER IF YOU NEED HIM.
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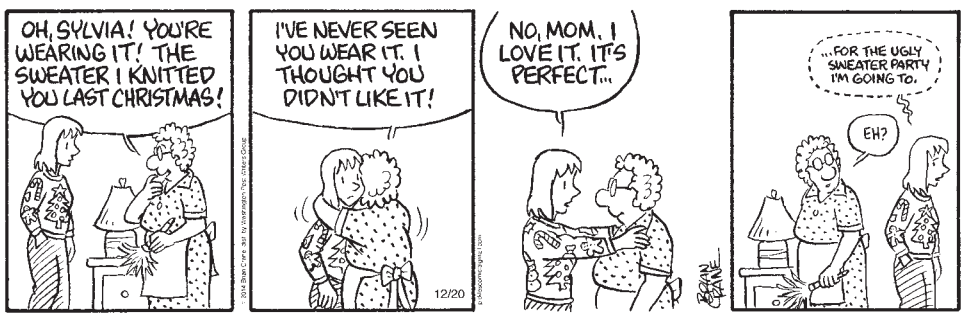
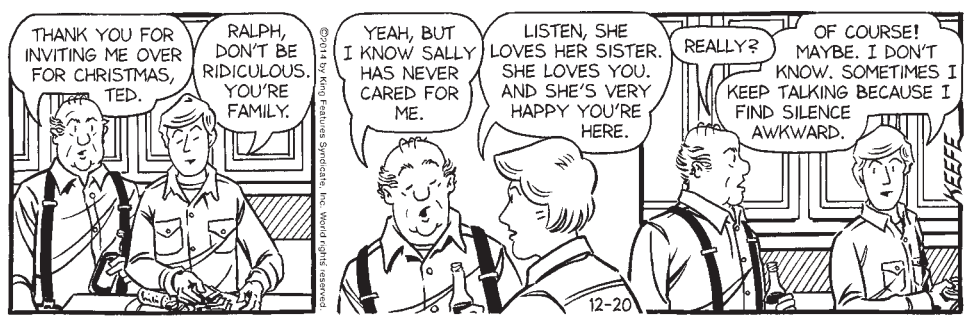
MUTTS

PICKLES


OH, SYLVIA! YOU'RE WEARING IT! THE SWEATER I KNITTED YOU LAST CHRISTMAS!
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU WEAR IT. I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T LIKE IT!
12/20
NO, MOM. I LOVE IT. IT'S PERFECT...
...FOR THE UGLY SWEATER PARTY I'M GOING TO.
EH?

SALLY FORTH


THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME OVER FOR CHRISTMAS, TED.
RALPH, DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. YOU'RE FAMILY.
YEAH, BUT I KNOW SALLY HAS NEVER CARED FOR ME.
LISTEN, SHE LOVES HER SISTER. SHE LOVES YOU. AND SHE'S VERY HAPPY YOU'RE HERE.
REALLY?
OF COURSE! MAYBE. I DON'T KNOW. SOMETIMES I KEEP TALKING BECAUSE I FIND SILENCE AWKWARD.
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12-20
KEEFE

Prime Time TV

SATURDAY EVENING DEC. 20

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC 7 13 41 57	Heart and Soul	I Want a Dog for Christmas		CMA Country Christmas Music stars perform holiday songs. CC			
CBS 2 3 22	NFL Kickoff	NFL Kickoff	:25 NFL Football San Diego Chargers at San Francisco 49ers. (N) (L) CC				
NBC 5 8 16	Operation Smile	The Sound of Music Live! A governess falls in love with her boss. CC					
FOX 17 28 32	Modern Family	Bones "The Conspiracy in the Corpse"		Sleepy Hollow "The Kindred"		Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS 34	Lawrence Welk	Antiques Roadshow (N) CC		Keeping Up Appearances CC		As Time Goes By	As Time Goes By
CW 25	Big Bang Theory	Futurama CC	Futurama CC	Seinfeld CC	Seinfeld CC	News	Friends CC
MNT 50	Graham Bensinger	Burn Notice A boy's family is terrorized.		Burn Notice "Mixed Messages" CC		The Closer "Forgive Us Our Trespasses"	
WCIU 26	Mike & Molly	Futurama CC	Futurama CC	American Dad	American Dad	Family Guy	American Dad
WHME 46	Designing Spaces	Paid Program	Miracle South	Gospel Superfest Holiday 14		The Best of Harvest CC	
WSBT 22	American Christmas	Da Vinci's Inquest CC		White Collar Neal has a copycat thief.		News	H'wood News
A&E	:00 Criminal Minds	Criminal Minds "Cold Comfort" CC		Criminal Minds Team seeks copycat killer.		Criminal Minds CC	
AMC	Sorcerer's Ap	★★ The Santa Clause 2 ('02, Comedy) Tim Allen. Santa must get married in order to keep his job.					White Christmas
Animal	Pit Bulls	Pit Bulls-Parole		Pit Bulls-Parole		Pit Bulls-Parole	
BET	:00 Madea's Big Happy Family CC					Jumping the Broom	
Big Ten	College Basketball				Finale	Finale	Finale
Bravo	Housewives/Atl.	★★ Tyler Perry's Madea's Witness Protection ('12, Comedy) Tyler Perry, Eugene Levy. (P).					Tyler Perry
Cartoon	Tintin	Sit Down	King/Hill	King/Hill	American	Boon	Dynamite
Cinemax	6:00 Blade	★★ We're the Millers ('13, Comedy) Jennifer Aniston, Jason Sudeikis. CC				★★ Fast & Furious 6 ('13) CC	
CMT	:00 ★★ The Guardian ('06) Kevin Costner.					Party Down South	
CNBC	Secret	Secret	Secret	Suze Orman Show		The Profit	
CNN	:00 ★★★ Blackfish ('13)			★★★ Dinosaur 13 ('14)			
Comedy	:35 ★★★ The Hangover ('09) Bradley Cooper.					Bachelorette	
CSNC	Sports	College Basketball				Black	Hockey
Discovery	Airplane Repo	Airplane Repo "Blood & Mud"		Airplane Repo "Get Rich or Die Flyin'"		Airplane Repo: Wheels Up CC	
Disney	Liv-Mad.	Girl	I Didn't	Jessie CC		Lab Rats	Mighty
DIY	Ren.	Ren.	Ren.	Ren.	Ren.	Reno	Reno
E!	:00 ★★★ Sex and the City ('08) Kim Cattrall					Two Weeks Notice	
Encore	Quigley Down	★★★★ The Shawshank Redemption ('94, Drama) Tim Robbins, Morgan Freeman. iTV. CC					:25 Alien ('79)
ESPN	College Football			College Football			
ESPN2	Women's College Volleyball				College Basketball		
ESPNC	:00 30 for 30 CC			30 for 30 CC			
Family	6:00 Elf ('03)	★★ Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas ('00, Fantasy) Jim Carrey, Jeffrey Tambor.					Home Alone
Food	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
Fox News	Report	Huckabee (N)		Justice With Jeanine		FOX News Special	
Fox Sports	Boxing			College Basketball: Crossroads Classic			
FX	Smithsonian	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly
G4	2 Months	Science	Science	Science	Science	Soup	Soup
Golf	Big Break	Big Break		Big Break		Big Break	
Hallmark	Christmas Wrap	Christmas in Conway ('13, Romance) Andy Garcia, Mary-Louise Parker.				The Christmas Ornament ('13) CC	
HBO	6:15 Mama	★★ Divergent ('14) Shailene Woodley. A young woman discovers a plot to destroy those like her. CC					Newsroom
History	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn	Pawn
HGTV	Vacation	Property Brothers		Property Brothers		House Hunters	
Learning	Santa	Sex Sent Me to the		Untold Stories of ER		Sex Sent Me to the	
Lifetime	Dear San	★★ The Holiday ('06) Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet. CC					
MSNBC	Caught	Caught on Camera		Lockup		Lockup	
MTV	:10 ★★ Legally Blonde ('01)				★★ The Princess Diaries		
NFL	Kickoff	Kickoff	NFL Football: Chargers at 49ers				
Nick	Henry	Henry	Nicky	Thunder	Haunted	Prince	Prince
NGEO	Troopers	Alaska-Trooper		Alaska-Trooper		Drugs, Inc.	
Oxygen	Dirty Dancing	★ The Ugly Truth ('09) Katherine Heigl, Gerard Butler, Eric Winter. (P).				:05 ★ The Ugly Truth ('09)	
Showtime	Lee-Butler	The Affair CC		The Affair		Homeland "13 Hours in Islamabad" CC	
Spike	:21 Cops	Cops (N)	:29 Cops	Auction	Auction	Thrift	Thrift
Starz	Saving Mr. Banks	7:55 The Missing (iTV) CC		The Missing Tony covers up his tracks.		:05 The Missing (iTV) CC	
SyFy	6:30 ★★ Volcano ('97) Tommy Lee Jones. (P).			Christmas Icetastrophe ('14) Victor Webster, Jennifer Spence. (P).			
TBS	Love-Raymond	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory
TCM	She-Ribbon	★★★★ The Thin Man ('34) William Powell. CC (DVS)			:45 ★★★ Auntie Mame ('58) Rosalind Russell. CC		
TMC	:00 ★★ The Longest Yard ('05) Adam Sandler. CC			★★ Hostel ('06, Horror) Jay Hernandez. (P). CC			Mine Games
TNT	:45 ★★★★ The Wizard of Oz ('39) CC (DVS)					Transporter	
Travel	Ghost	Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		Dead Files Revisited	
TV Land	:43 Family Feud	FamFeud		Raymond	Raymond	King	King
USA	Its Life	★★★★ Forrest Gump ('94) Tom Hanks, Robin Wright. (P). An innocent man enters history from the '50s to the '90s.					
VH1	Sorority	Love & Hip Hop		★★★ Bad Boys ('95) Will Smith			
WGN-A	:00 Blue Bloods	Blue Bloods "The Job" CC		Blue Bloods "Parenthood" CC		Blue Bloods "The Life We Chose"	

Study suggests link between anti-anxiety drugs and dementia

DEAR DOCTOR K: I'm an older woman who sometimes takes Valium or Xanax for anxiety or if I'm unable to fall asleep. I recently heard that this type of medication may cause dementia. Should I stop using it?

DEAR READER: Valium and Xanax are benzodiazepines, a type of anti-anxiety drug. Like you, many people take these drugs to calm their nerves or help them sleep. And as you've heard, a recent study raised the possibility that benzodiazepine use may lead to dementia.

For the study, researchers identified nearly 2,000 men and women over age 66 who were diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. They randomly selected more than 7,000 other men and women without Alzheimer's.

The researchers looked at what drugs the study subjects had been prescribed in the five to six years before their Alzheimer's diagnosis.

They found that people who had taken benzodiazepines for a long time had an increased risk of Alzheimer's. People who had taken a benzodiazepine for three months or less had about the same dementia risk as those who had never taken one. However, taking the drug for three to six months raised the risk of Alzheimer's by 32 percent. Taking it for more than six months boosted the risk by 84 percent.

The type of drug also mattered. People who took a long-acting benzodiazepine were at greater risk than those on a short-acting one. (If you're not sure whether the drug you take is long- or short-acting, ask your doctor.)

Dr. Anthony Komaroff

Though the two may be linked, it's too early to say whether benzodiazepines cause Alzheimer's. Studies like this one can't separate cause and effect.

It could be that taking benzodiazepines for a long time actually increases the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease. But it also could be that as Alzheimer's disease is slowly developing, it causes people to become more anxious and to have more trouble sleeping. That, in turn, could lead people who are developing Alzheimer's disease to start taking benzodiazepines.

So taking benzodiazepines could lead to Alzheimer's disease, or developing Alzheimer's disease could lead people to start taking benzodiazepines. We just can't be sure.

Does that mean there's no reason to worry about taking benzodiazepines for more than three months? I don't think so. First of all, there are many studies that show memory problems linked to benzodiazepines. So it isn't implausible that medicines that may negatively affect memory could raise the risk of a disease in which memory is destroyed.

And there surely are other reasons for older people to avoid benzodiazepines. Two common side effects of benzodiazepines – confusion and clouded thinking – can lead to falls, fractures and auto accidents.

Finally, benzodiazepines can cause tolerance. Over time, you'll need a greater amount of the drug to produce the same effect, and you are likely to experience withdrawal symptoms when you stop taking it.

Talk to your doctor about your anxiety and insomnia. He or she should be able to prescribe drugs that are safer and just as effective as the ones you're currently taking.

Dr. Komaroff is a physician and professor at Harvard Medical School. To send questions, go to AskDoctorK.com, or write: Ask Doctor K, 10 Shattuck St., Second Floor, Boston, MA 02115.

Depression could be driving teenage girl to cut herself

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 15-year-old girl. For the past year I have been self-injuring. I take a sharp object and scrape the skin off until it bleeds. My mom saw the scars on my arm. I have 15 other ones, but she doesn't know about them.

I have to keep lying to her and it hurts. I want to stop, but I can't. How can I tell her I lied? I know she will be very upset. – Stuck in Utah

DEAR STUCK: Go to your mother, tell her that you need to talk to her about something important, but you are afraid she will be angry with you. Ask her to hear you out before she reacts. Then tell her everything you have told me and ask for her help. That's what mothers are for.

If necessary, show her your letter to me and my response because she needs to understand that when individuals self-injure, it is often to cope with serious depression – which is an illness – and it takes the help of a mental health professional to stop.

DEAR ABBY: My husband took up the guitar about 10 years ago. I thought it was a great idea at first and encouraged his interest. Within two years of his learning to play, I was expected to sit, listen to him and never interrupt a song.

Needless to say, his demands have not gone over well with me. This is his hobby, not mine. He plays well, but can't sing a note. When he does, he sounds like a cat in heat, and he likes to perform like he's playing for a crowd.

Jeanne Phillips
Dear Abby

My peace and quiet at home are gone. He says I don't support him. What is your take on this? – Wants Peace And Quiet

DEAR WANTS: Your husband wants praise and validation, and you should give it to him in the area where it's deserved – for having mastered the guitar. However, because his singing needs tweaking, be honest and tactfully suggest he find a vocal coach to help him in that area. If he reacts defensively, be sure to mention that some of the finest singers in the world get coaching throughout their careers to avoid damaging their vocal cords.

PS. Perhaps you should encourage him to find other musicians to start a group. That way, he'll have an outlet for his talent and you'll be free (at last!).

DEAR ABBY: I am an eighth-grader in junior high, and there is a girl I really like. My problem is I'm afraid to tell her I love her.

I know she likes someone else and wants to go out with him, but I don't know if she likes me. When I'm home, I write her poems, and I want to drop them off at her locker, but I am scared to. We are in three classes together. Do you have any advice? – Nervous Boy

DEAR NERVOUS BOY: Yes. If you're smart, you'll wait until that girl is over her crush before declaring your feelings for her.

The boy she has her eye on may or may not be interested in her. But as long as she's fixated on him, she won't be receptive to a romance with you, and it could be embarrassing if you say anything prematurely. (The same goes for anonymously dropping off your literary efforts at her locker.)

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Crossword

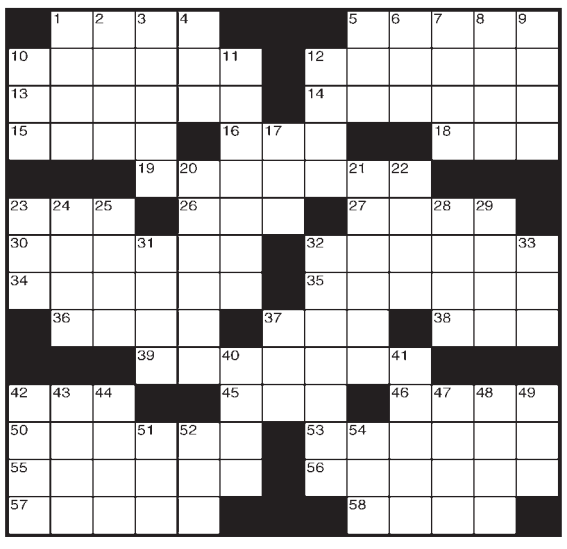
ACROSS
1 Sand mandala builder
5 Physique
10 Dolphins QB Dan —
12 Victor's wreath
13 Cracker shape
14 Signs up for
15 Obi-Wan, for one
16 Rustic lodging
18 Blvd.
19 Much desired
23 Academic stat
26 Lobster-house wear
27 Prom rental
30 Sporty sock
32 Champagne go-with
34 Angora goat fabric
35 Cochise's tribe
36 Crooned
37 "— Doubtfire"
38 — Wiedersehen
39 Cultured
42 Rx writers
45 Capitalize on
46 Command to Fido
50 Father of geometry
53 Almost
55 Make possible
56 Bagel choice
57 Uptight
58 Green Hornet's valet

DOWN
1 Bowling alley
2 Parched
3 Copy
4 Wheel buy (2 wds.)
5 Ceiling fixture
6 Dull routine
7 — 51
8 Griffin of TV
9 Failing that
10 Mil. rank
11 Noted Hamlet portrayer
12 Gave temporarily
17 Midwest st.
20 Do a favor
21 Slip away
22 Aria performer
23 Herd of whales
24 Big leaguers
25 — Khan
28 Easily split mineral
29 Waikiki setting
31 Masculine principle
32 Lurches
33 NBA official
37 Natural elevs.
40 Renoir subject
41 Tibet's capital
42 Bump into
43 Kind of buggy
44 Read hurriedly
47 QED part
48 Furry red Muppet
49 Strong alkali
51 UPS units
52 Percent ending
54 Cartoon shriek

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	H	E	D	S			R	U	S	T	Y	
T	E	D	I	U	M		W	O	R	K	E	D
A	M	O	E	B	A		A	G	G	I	E	S
			M	S	G		F	E	E			
E	B	B		I	N	F	E	R		U	M	A
S	E	E		D	E	R	R		O	R	E	S
T	A	F	F	E	T	A		C	H	A	R	T
A	V	O	I	D		C	R	O	O	N	E	R
T	E	R	N		R	A	H	S		U	S	A
E	R	E		B	A	S	I	S		S	T	Y
			W	O	N		N	E	E			
V	A	C	A	N	T		O	T	T	A	W	A
P	R	I	D	E	S		S	E	N	I	O	R
S	I	D	E	D			D	A	M	O	N	

Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com



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Jumble

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RUNPS

POATD

MESSEA

VEWTEL

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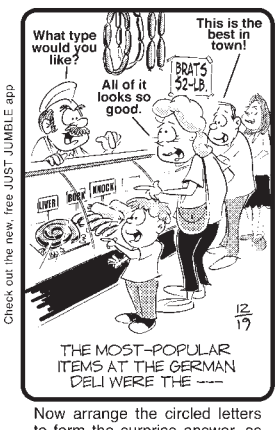
Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app



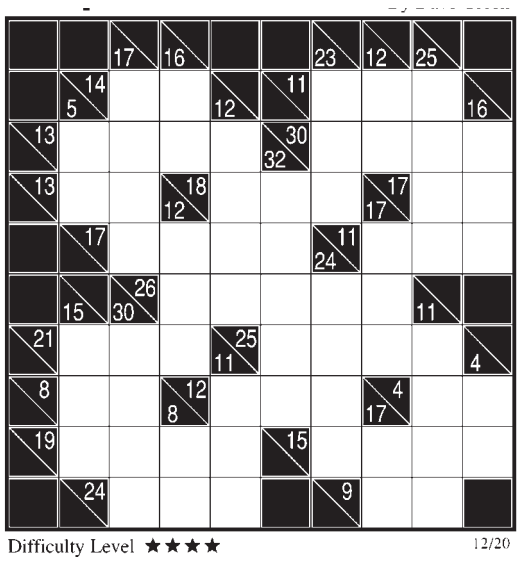
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans: " " " "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BLITZ GLORY ASTHMA SHRANK
Answer: The Australian marsupials' new treehouse was — HIGH "KOALA-TY"

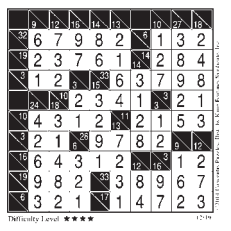
Kakuro



Difficulty Level ★★★★ 12/20

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.

Answer to previous puzzle



Bridge

Aldous Huxley, an English novelist and critic who died in 1963, said, "An unexciting truth may be eclipsed by a thrilling lie."

At the bridge table, declarer can happily lie – falsecard – because he can fool only the defenders. However, when a defender falsecards, it might mislead his partner into making a mistake, because he misplaced a key card. But there are some situations in which a falsecard is mandatory or likely not to cost. How does that apply in this deal? West leads his fourth-highest heart against three no-trump. What should happen after that?

In the auction, North's two-club rebid was New Minor Forcing. It announced at least game-invitational values and asked opener to describe his hand further, giving top priority to showing three-card spade support.

South begins with six top tricks: four diamonds and two clubs. He has good chances to gain sufficient extra winners from the black suits, but first he must surmount the heart hurdle. If East follows the textbook, he wins the first trick with his heart king, cashes the heart ace and plays a third round. Here, though, South wins with his queen and establishes two spade tricks for his contract.

Yes, East might lead a low heart at trick two; maybe declarer would misguess. But better would be to win the first trick with the ace, in principle denying the king, then to return a low heart. South would surely play his 10. And West, after winning with his jack, would have no reason to do anything other than to lead another heart, giving the defenders four hearts and one spade.

North 12-20-14
♠ K Q J 9 7
♥ 8 7
♦ Q J
♣ K J 4 3

West
♠ A 10 8 2
♥ J 9 6 5
♦ 4 3
♣ 10 8 5

East
♠ 6 3
♥ A K 4 3
♦ 10 7 6 5 2
♣ Q 7

South
♠ 5 4
♥ Q 10 2
♦ A K 9 8
♣ A 9 6 2

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Opening lead: ♥ 5

Sudoku

Difficulty: 4 (of 5)

		9						8
					8			
6	4		3	2				
1				5		4		7
				8		5		
5		7	2			9	3	
				4			1	
		6	1			3	2	
	2				7			

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

3	4	2	9	7	5	6	1	8
9	7	6	1	2	8	3	5	4
8	1	5	3	6	4	7	2	9
7	5	1	4	3	9	8	6	2
6	9	8	2	5	7	1	4	3
2	3	4	8	1	6	9	7	5
1	6	9	5	4	3	2	8	7
4	8	7	6	9	2	5	3	1
5	2	3	7	8	1	4	9	6

The practice of Loving Kindness

While Christmas is not traditionally a part of Buddhism, the teachings of Jesus that focus on loving and caring for others are an important part of Buddhist meditation practice.

In normal life our mind is occupied with a variety of sensations and thoughts. Our five senses permit us to see, hear, taste, touch and smell the world around us, and our mind allows us to think, judge, plan, remember and dream. Most of the time, these activities are going on automatically while we sleep, eat, work and play. Meditation is a way for the practitioner to be more intentional in how the world is thought about and perceived.

Kunga Nyima

Insights

Traditionally, to practice meditation, the individual finds a quiet spot in which to sit without moving for a prolonged period of time. Images of the Buddha often show the founder of Buddhism sitting cross-legged on a cushion with his hands resting in his lap and his eyes closed. Western students of Buddhism often sit in a straight-backed chair with both feet planted on the floor. The aim of this position is to help the meditator maintain an alert state of mind with minimal distractions.

A basic meditation technique is to sit and follow one's breathing as it flows in and out through the nose. Beginners are often surprised at how difficult it can be to follow one's breathing for even a short period of time. Through this exercise the meditator becomes more familiar with their thinking process and develops concentration. As the meditator's mind becomes more focused, they can use meditation to assist them with developing skillful thoughts and actions. Skillful in this case refers to those thoughts and actions that promote happiness and reduce suffering for ourselves and others.

Loving kindness, compassion, sympathetic joy, and equanimity are known in Buddhist teachings as the Four Immeasurables. These are the skillful qualities that all thinking beings can develop further through meditation practice. Development of these qualities helps to reduce the unskillful qualities of anger, cruelty, hatred and prejudice.

The practice of Loving Kindness is one of the main meditation practices used to overcome anger. This practice is used to help develop feelings of loving kindness for oneself, one's family, one's community and even one's enemies. The Buddhist teacher Thich Nhat Hanh states that "Loving Kindness has the capacity to bring happiness to others without demanding anything in return."

As a hospice social worker, I often come into contact with individuals who are suffering from physical and/or spiritual pain. Sometimes, I feel that I and my hospice team have done everything within our capabilities but the still the person is experiencing significant suffering. At these times, I will often work with Loving Kindness meditation as an additional means to relieve the suffering of my patient and strengthen my resolve to be of service to them.

One way I do this is to visualize the person who I know is suffering and then to express a genuine wish for their suffering to come to an end. Thich Nhat Hanh recommends repeating the following phrases to communicate this wish: "May my patient be peaceful, happy, and light in mind and body. May my patient be safe and free from injury. May my patient be free from anger, affliction, fear and anxiety."

Through this practice of intentionally developing loving kindness in myself, I find that I am better able to appreciate the suffering that I witness in life and maintain the energy I need to continue serving others.

Today's Insights was written by Kunga Nyima, coordinator of the St. Joseph Buddhist Sangha.

Insights is written by area clergy to give different viewpoints on a variety of topics. It is published each Saturday in cooperation with the Berrien County Association of Churches. The views expressed by the author do not necessarily reflect the views of member churches.

Church Notes

Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 1200 W. Glenlord, St. Joseph, will hold Sunday school and Advent worship at 11 a.m. Sunday. The Rev. Damien Lake will lead worship. Nursery care provided. Choir practice will be at 9:30 a.m. An all-church breakfast will be from 9:15-10:30 a.m. Sunday. Cost is $4. A Christmas Eve candlelight service will be at 7:30 p.m.

The Chancel Choir and Chamber Orchestra will offer a musical service titled "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" at 9 a.m. Sunday at **St. Joseph First United Methodist Church**, 2950 Lakeview Ave., St. Joseph. A contemporary celebration featuring a worship band and birthday party for Jesus will be at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday. Two services are offered Christmas Eve: a family service at 7 p.m. with children offering their musical talents and a focus on the Christmas story read from the Bible, and a traditional candlelight service at 11 p.m. with "Lessons and Carols," including the Chancel Choir, soloists and Chamber Orchestra.

Youth Ministry of **Ebenezer Baptist Church,** 214 E. Britain Ave., Benton Harbor, will hold its annual Christmas program at 9:30 a.m. Sunday. Christmas service will be at 3 p.m. Sunday.

The Berrien Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4340 Lincoln Ave., St. Joseph will feature Amy Eklund leading a special winter solstice celebration at 10:30 a.m. Sunday. The Rev. Jim McConnell will present a traditional Christmas Eve service at 5:30 p.m.

The Berrien County **"A Course In Miracles" study group** will meet at the Lincoln Township Public Library at 11 a.m. Monday.

Worship services will be at 9:30 a.m. Sunday at **Fairplain Presbyterian Church**, 210 W. Napier Ave., Benton Harbor, followed by refreshments and education hour at 11 a.m. After the education hour, there will be a lunch with Benton Harbor First Presbyterian and Niles First Presbyterian churches, followed by caroling for homebound members. After caroling the group will head to First Presbyterian for refreshments. Christmas Eve service will be at 4 p.m,. complete with a pageant.

Immanuel Lutheran Church, 9650 N. Church St., Bridgman, will have a Christmas cantata, "I'll be Home for Christmas," at 9 a.m. Sunday. A free pancake breakfast with live Christmas music will follow at 10 a.m.

The Gospel King Brothers will host a Christmas musical program at **Christian Light Baptist Church**, 1997 Eastland Ave., Benton Harbor, at 7 p.m. Sunday.

Episcopal Church of the Mediator, 14280 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, will have Christmas Eve service with a family service and children's pageant at 5 p.m. Late service will be at 10:30 p.m. with Christmas carols, followed by the midnight candle-lit Holy Eucharist at 10:45 p.m. There will be no service Christmas Day.

First Congregational Church, 651 Phoenix St., South Haven, will present the story of the birth of our Lord and a special children's story on Christmas Eve. The evening begins at 6:45 p.m. with special Christmas music. The service, which will be 7-8 p.m., is designed for all ages.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1965 Broadway, Benton Harbor, invites you to celebrate the Savior's birth at 7 p.m. Christmas Eve with a candlelight service. The Christmas Day festival service with Holy Communion will be at 9:30 a.m.

Children with special needs are welcome to the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve service at **First Congregational UCC,** 2001 Niles Ave., St. Joseph. Service will include visual bulletins, noise-cancelling headphones, and battery-operated candles. Sounds and motions encouraged. This is not a sit-still-be-quiet service. Come and rejoice and experience the joy of Christ's birth.

Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, 1105 W. Main St., Benton Harbor will have Christmas Day service at 10 a.m.

Church Notes is a free listing, published each Saturday as a public service.

Announcements are due by noon on Wednesday. Late items will not be published.

The editor reserves the right to edit for space and style. Incomplete information may not be published. First and last names should be furnished.

Pictures submitted should have names on the back. Pictures can be picked up at The Herald-Palladium office within 30 days of publication or can be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Send items to: Church News, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; fax to 429-4398 or email to focus@TheHP.com. Items should include a daytime telephone number.

Tiptoeing through the minefield of holiday symbols

Anyone passing the Hoffman home in the Cincinnati suburbs during the holidays will see festive blue and white lights and an inflatable bear in the front yard – a bear wearing a Santa cap and holding a candy cane.

This is where things got complicated, with a typically blunt question from a child: Should Jews have a bear in the yard during Hanukkah?

Terry Mattingly

"I said it was a Jewish bear," said Neal Hoffman, a marketing executive. "One of our boys came right back with: 'What about the candy cane? Don't candy canes have something to do with Christmas?' I said I didn't think there was anything specifically Christian about a candy cane. Is there?"

Well, that's complicated, too, since the candy cane often shown with Santa Claus is a symbol that links the shopping-mall superstar back through the mists of history to the 4th century's St. Nicholas of Myra, in Asia Minor. The saint was a bishop and, thus, this spiritual shepherd carried a crook staff – which in Western church tradition is shaped like a large candy cane.

"The main thing is that I want my kids to know that they're Jewish and our celebration of the holidays is different," said Hoffman. "They also know Mommy is a Catholic and we celebrate both holidays, but we really celebrate Hanukkah – big time.

"We're in both worlds, but we're trying to make a statement that we're different and that this is a good thing."

The holiday puzzle is really complicated during Hanukkah, the eight-day "festival of lights" that began at sundown on Dec. 16 this year. The season's primary symbol is a menorah, a nine-branched candelabrum that represents a miracle in which a one-day supply of pure oil burned for eight days after Jewish rebels – the Maccabees – liberated the temple from Greek oppressors.

Part of the puzzle, of course, is that this relatively minor Jewish holiday is aligned with Christmas during "The Holidays," an explosion of secular marketing and festivities that dominate American life this time of year. Many Jews avoid Christmas altogether, striving to focus on Hanukkah traditions. Some keep the season's gift-giving modest, to avoid appearances of turning Hanukkah into a "Jewish Christmas."

However, many Jews – especially in interfaith homes – have made their peace with Christmas, while exploring the line between the sacred and secular. Is a green tree safe, especially when topped with a six-pointed Star of David? Do snowflakes and icicles suggest the North Pole and, thus, Santa Claus?

Holiday cards also inspire a "swirling snow globe of emotions" for many Jews, noted Lenore Skenazy, a columnist, author and reality show host. Most generic holiday cards don't cry out "Victory for the Maccabees!"

"So the question is: Does sending a not-specifically Hanukkah card mean the sender is buying into Christmas?" she asked in an essay for the Jewish Daily Forward. Some Jews choose "purely wintery" blue and silver cards – avoiding red and green – seeking a look that is "neither Santa nor latke."

But some people question all those winter symbols, too. "Snowmen, believe it or not, turn out to be a minefield all their own," she noted. One friend she contacted stressed, "'No trees, wreaths or snowmen for me!' ... By trees, she meant Christmas trees. Dittos, Christmas wreaths. But snowmen? Big, smiling balls of snow? Those are taboo?"

Are reindeer safe? How about polar bears? When one of his sons begged for one of the hip "Elf on the Shelf" plush toys, Hoffman responded by creating a "Mensch on a Bench" alternative. This toy is now sold nationwide, with a hardback storybook explaining its Yiddish roots.

In the age of social media – especially zillions of visual Pinterest boards – all kinds of secular and religious Jews are sharing tips on how to create do-it-yourself traditions that reflect their own unique family trees, he said. It's hard to imagine a more American approach to solving the holiday puzzles in the lives of many modern families.

"We're just not accepting what's been done before and what's out there on the shelves and that's that," said Hoffman. "We're thinking this through as a family and coming up with a plan that is meaningful for us. ... That's what matters the most. We are all in this together, as a family."

Terry Mattingly is the director of the Washington Journalism Center at the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities and leads the GetReligion.org project to study religion and the news.

Worship Services

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On the Web: PeaceLutheranStJoe.org
Facebook: Peace Lutheran Church NALC

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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
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Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Wednesday, Christmas Eve 4:00 & 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, Christmas Day 9:00 a.m.
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(South of Glenlord Rd.) Phone 429-7222
Website: www.christ-luth.org
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2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Sunday Worship Service 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:30 a.m.

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11am Worship service
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621-4521
www.hartfordfederated.com
Sunday School 9:45am
Worship 11AM
AWANA 5:15-7 pm
Youth 5-7pm

First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
WORSHIP
10:25 a.m.
Children's Classes During Worship
Nursery Care Provided
2001 Niles Avenue, St. Joseph
www.fccstjoseph.org 983-5519

The Herald-Palladium

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified Desk: 1-800-356-4262
Hours: Monday - Friday 7am-5pm
Saturday & Sunday 7am-12:30pm

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS

Bridgman, Starting October 17th 1/2 off first months rent with year lease, 1 & 2 Bdrm Apts., some fully furnished, Pet Friendly. Starting at $435/mo Call 269-465-3333

Benton Harbor
3 Bedroom
Apartment 885
Superior $500/mo
Security deposit
required
269-470-0225

Briarwood Apts and Villas
3 bedroom 2 bath
duplex with 2
car garage.
Hurry! Won't last
long!!
219-380-5136

Carriage House Apartments will be accepting applications for the 1 bedroom waiting list on the following Tuesdays, December 16th, 23rd, and 30th from 1:00pm to 4:30pm. All applicants, 18 and older, must be present to apply. Credit, income, and landlord guidelines apply. Rent and deposit based on income. Call for additional information 219-326-9042.
Carriage House
Apartments
1700 Andrew Ave.
La Porte, IN 46350

FOX VILLAGE
ONE OF
LAPORTE'S FINEST
1 and 2 bedrooms,
1 1/2 baths, appliances
some with
washers and dryer.
Heat, water furnished.
Call 219-362-5422

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Call For Specials
Large 2 & 3
Bedroom
town homes.
Quiet Country Living
(219) 406-4666

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1 & 2 BEDROOM
PET FRIENDLY ,
SENIOR DISCOUNTS
& MOVE IN SPECIALS
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2400 ANDREW AVE.
www.laporte
commons.com

LA PORTE:
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Apartments
1, 2 and 3 bedrooms
Ask about our free
rent specials
219-380-5136
pmandmindiana.com

LA PORTE:
1 bedroom
lower, new paint,
very clean,
hardwood floors,
good area, stove,
refrigerator,
No Pets, No
Smoking $590
monthly. That
includes everything!
219-363-3198

LAPORTE
ROSELAWN
APARTMENT
Currently available
2 bedrooms
1105 W. 10th St.
Call 219-362-4473
Roselawnapts.com

Laporte: 5 room upstairs, $400 water included. 219-362-7160

Michigan City
Long Beach
Cove Villas
Check out our
free rent specials!
2 and 3 bedroom
2 bath units.
219-879-9950
pmandmindiana
.com

Michigan City
1 bedroom upper & lower apt, range & refrigerator, carpet & ceramic floor, deck, off street parking, security light, includes water & sanitation, tenant pays gas & elect, neat & clean, security deposit, NO PETS/NO SMOKING call 219-872-7031 leave message

UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS

Michigan City
1 Bedroom Upper.
Some utilities
included.
$425.00 monthly.
Call 219-872-1009

Michigan City
Cedar Gate
Apartments
110 Cedar Gate Ct.
Holiday Special!
First Month
Free Rent!
Studio, 1 and
2 Bedrooms.
Single Story with
attic. Washer/
Dryer hookup
in most units.
Pet Friendly
219-809-6080

Michigan City
Deluxe 3 bdrm upper
custom kitchen,
ceramic tile,
hardwood flooring,
washer dryer hookup
324 1/2 E. 10th
$720 month + utils
No pets

Deluxe 3 bdrm
house. Newly
remodeled,
hardwood floors
W/D hookup
1115 W 9th.
$800 monthly
plus utilities
no pets
Call 219-229-0270

Michigan City, Queen's Park Apts Small quiet setting. Spacious 1&2 bdrm from $575/mo! 219-296-9606

Michigan City: Cute & Cozy 1 bed off street parking, stove & refrig, 219-362-5933 or 219-851-1931

Michigan City
Call About Move-in
Special. 3 bedroom,
You pay utilities.
$595/mo +deposit.
411 1/2 Chicago St
Call 219-617-5667

St. Joseph 1022 Park St. 2 bedroom, Lower. Big living room, ceiling fans, A/C, Mini blinds, W/D. $600 No pets call 269-429-0040

FURNISHED APARTMENTS

MICHIGAN CITY

Now Renting

1 BEDROOM
APARTMENTS

Completely
remodeled
and furnished.

Starting as low as
$450- $500/month
& security deposit.

Call 219-879-3430

HOMES FOR RENT

Mi. City, 4 Bedrms. 3 F.B. 301 Freyer Rd., M.C. Lg. brick, 1 deck, finished basemnt, W/D, A/C, stove & fridge, 2 car garage, on 2 acres. $1000/mo+$1000 sec. dep. Credit check. Call Pat 312-965-0997.

Michigan City: 216 Main St Apt. 3bdrm, full bath, new carpeting, new kitchen flooring & tons of cabinet space, built in microwave, stove & refrig included, brand new 96% eff heating & a/c, water/hot water included, 1 car garage & off street parking included, lg back desk $750 312-961-5679

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HOUSES,
DUPLEXES
and APARTMENTS
available for rent
or land contract.
For available
properties &
application
information
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219-575-4620
or visit our website
Kkrental.webs.com

Michigan City
Gardena Street- 3 bed 1.5 bath, full basement, hardwood, large kitchen, 2 car garage. 219-728-4779

HOMES FOR RENT

Michigan City. STOP 3/Washington Park, ONE BLOCK OFF LAKE SHORE DR. Hilltop lake view. 2bd. new stove, all new carpeting, recently remodeled. 20x15 21 window MASTER BEDROOM with views overlooking Lake Michigan. Front porch. Walk-out basement with large family room. 700/mo+deposit. Call Rod 574-288-5837 or 574-210-9088 (cell phone)

Coloma MI
2 Bedroom house in
Coloma $580/mo
plus deposit.
No Pets.
269-468-4440

LA PORTE:
316 Oberreich St.
Looking for a very
clean family to make
this house a home.
2 bedroom 1.5 bath
with large office, with
its own entrance.
Really clean, lots of
new upgrades,
off street parking
and shed.
NO PETS
$160 weekly
Utilities not included
Call 219-324-0408

Michigan City
Lease a 2 bedroom,
1 bath home
Starting at
$550 per month
Only a few left!
Call 219-874-4290

WANTED TO RENT

South Haven; Mature,single,professional looking for unfurnished 2 bedroom 1-plus bath home/condo to rent within walking distance of downtown South Haven. 1 small, house trained dog. Minimum 1 year lease. Available Feb,Mar, Apr 2015. Please call 616-405-2550 and leave a message and leave message which also includes address of rental.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

Michigan City
Buying a home
made easy!
3 bedroom
2 bath home
starting as low as
$10,000.00
Great Location/
Community
Amenities Included
Call (219) 874-4290

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

Westville IN
2 homes for sale
Handyman special
$1200
2 bedroom 1 bath all
appliances included
Please call or text
219-229-4932

LEGALS

LEGALS

BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSING

BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING WILL BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 25TH & 26TH FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY AND WILL REOPEN ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 29TH AT 8:30 A.M. TRASH PICKUP FOR WEDNESDAY 12/24 WILL BE WEDNESDAY 12/24.

Carolyn Phillips
Township Clerk

NOTICE
REQUEST FOR
PROPOSAL
CITY ATTORNEY
SERVICES
The City of New Buffalo, Mchigan is accepting proposals for City Attorney services until January 5, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. To receive bid information, contact New Buffalo City Hall at (269) 469-1500.
Allyson Holm, City Clerk

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The Settlor, Ann L. Welihan, who lived at 2733 Riverfront Path, St. Joseph, MI 49085, died on October 22, 2014. No Probate Estate has been opened for Ann L. Welihan, and there is no personal representative of the Settlor's Probate Estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Ann L. Welihan Revocable Living Trust dated April 22, 1996, as amended, will be forever barred unless presented to Michael L. Welihan, Trustee, within four months after the date of this publication. Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

November 21, 2014

Michael L. Welihan
3018 Robinhood Ln.
South Bend, IN 46614

ASHLEY STEPHENS
P78873
Passaro, Kahne &
Taylor Law Offices,
P.L.L.C.
685 West Main Street
Benton Harbor, MI
49022
(269) 983-0325

PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF BERRIEN

IN THE MATTER OF
CORINNE LOVELACY,
DECEASED

FILE NO:
2014-0488-DE-M

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: Billy Broadnax, Dixie Critz, Jack Broadnax, Jr., Jesse Broadnax, Jr., Karen Broadnax, Lloyd Graham, Michael Broadnax, Pam Broadnax, Unknown Child of Bobby Broadnax and Ronald Lovelacy

TAKE NOTICE:
A hearing will be held on January 6, 2014, at 09:15 a.m. at 811 Port Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085 before Judge Mabel Johnson Mayfield P41498 for the following purpose: Appointment of Personal Representative of the Estate

December 18, 2014

Lynn Sanders, Personal Representative
14717 Dorchester
Dolton, IL 60419
(708) 849-0166

Passaro, Kahne &
Taylor Law Offices,
P.L.L.C.
Lori M. Thompson
P57022
685 West Main Street
Benton Harbor, MI
49022
(269) 983-0325

ANNOUNCEMENTS

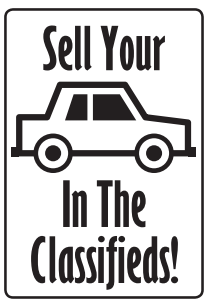
LOST

My jacket was taken from McDonald's Play Place in Michigan City on Thursday Dec. 18. It is fern green with 2 large patches covering the back. One is white & black with bunnies and the other is black with the band name "Batillus" on it. I'm offering $50 for its return NO QUESTIONS ASKED. Email: myloveisrobotic@gmail.com or text/call 574-302-1038.

FOUND

Hagar Township: Small dresser w/ clothes on Pier Rd. Call 269-849-3514 leave a message.

EMPLOYMENT



St Joe
I am looking for an energetic and diligent person who can keep records of calls/emails from clients and customers, communicate effectively, document related issues. This is a flexible position student and others can apply send resume to douglasollard@gmail.com.

EDUCATION/ TEACHING

ST. Joe, MI. Advance your Career! Become a Dialysis Tech within 12 weeks! Classes begin in Decmber; 2 days per week, 5pm-9pm. Dialysis Techs work in: 1.Dialysis Centers 2. Medical Clinics 3. Hospitals. Earning up to 30k per year, Its a fast pace and great Career Change. Earn top pay! For information call 269-588-3106. SEATS ARE LIMITED!!

PAYROLL COORDINATOR

Responsible for the accurate processing and accounting for payroll and payroll related items. Associate's degree and three years of office experience required. For a complete job description and online application, please visit our website at www.lakemichigancollege.edu/hr. Questions? Contact our Human Resources Department at (269) 927-8132.

LAKE MICHIGAN COLLEGE

MEDICAL/DENTAL

Berrien Springs
Job Opportunity at
Frontier Dental
Studio Looking to
hire Dental
Technician for
scanning and
designing for CAD.
Beginner can be
trained. We are
located in Berrien
Springs, MI.
To apply, call or fax
resume to
877-471-3065.

Full-time/Part-time CNS's, LPN's, RN's needed for all shift. Please apply in person M-F 8:30am to 5:00pm. Orchard Grove Extended Care, 1385 E. Empire Ave, Benton Harbor MI 49022. 269-925-0033. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer

TECHNICAL

Benton Harbor: Belle Tire seeking ASE and State Certified Mechanics. Opportunity to earn $75,000 a year or more! Apply online at www.belletirecareers.com

GENERAL HELP

The Herald-Palladium

Independent Contractor
Bundle Hauler position now available:
Must have reliable transportation capable of hauling newspaper bundles from The Herald Palladium to Home Delivery drop locations, stores & newspaper racks in the Coloma, Riverside & Watervliet areas. Applicants must have a valid driver's license & proof of car insurance.
Please contact Julie Simpleman
Send Resume to: The Herald-Palladium
P.O. Box 128 St. Joseph, MI 49085 or
Email: jsimpleman @thehp.com or 269-429-2400 ext. 161

Currently Hiring Maintenance Assistant $12 - $14/hr , Material Handler $10-12/hr Folder Operator $10-$16/hr Stitcher Operator $12 – 15/hr. Must apply in person Batson Printing 195 Michigan Benton Harbor Mi 49022.

Director of Music-Job Overview

The First Presbyterian Church of Decatur is looking for a Director of Music. This is a part-time position and will include serving as organist for Sunday Worship, Choir Director for both Senior Choir and possibly a Junior Choir and also special music functions thoughtout the year. This is a salaried position. Please email resume & references to pcdecaturmi@hotmail.com

Eau Claire
IMMEDIATE INTERVIEWS - CSM Services is currently seeking a motivated individual for cleaning at the Eau Claire Schools . Interested applicants are encouraged to apply online at http://www.csmservices.net or call our office at 1-800-490-5754

MI. City, Production Manager! Hands-on Operation Manager for a plastics packaging plant. Chemical, Filling, Training, Scheduling and Purchasing Experience. Mon-Fri. Health, Flex, IRA, Holidays and Vacation. OnLine Packaging 124 TriQuad Dr. Michigan City, IN 46360. 219-872-0925

The Herald-Palladium

Page designer wanted. We are looking for designers to lay out news pages in The Herald-Palladium and 10 other daily newspapers in our group. The ideal candidate will be proficient in InDesign, have experience in section front and newspage design and will be able to turn out a lot of pages on deadline. Send resume, cover letter and page samples to: Dave Brown, Managing Editor, The Herald-Palladium, by email (preferred) to: newsroomjobs@TheHP.com. Please put "page designer" in the subject line; or by mail at P.O. Box 128, 3450 Hollywood Road, St. Joseph, MI 49085.

Mi. City, Immediate openings in MI. CIty area. Part time, Security Guards needed. Armed and Unarmed. Must have a valid carry Permit, and own fire arm. Starting pay between $8.75 and $9.20 an hr must be available some weekends. please contact Matt and LEAVE A MESSAGE 574-514-7679.

St. Joe, MI. Auto body technician and painters helper wanted. Experienced only need apply. St.Joe Auto Body. 269-983-1414

River Valley School District Sub Bus Drivers Needed Employment info at: www.rivervalleyschools.org

Michigan City
Dana's Auto Body
has an immediate
job opening for an
Auto Body
Technician
with at least
2 years experience.
Must have
some tools.
Please email us at
danasautobody
@yahoo.com
or call us at
219-840-8489

Residential Maintenance Technician
The Arbor Glen Apartment Homes in Michigan City has an immediate opening for an organized technician with proven resident service skills. CFC Certification preferred with 2 years multi-family experience a plus. Benefits, retirement plan, paid time off, great work environment. Forward resume to: slamm @igcre.com or apply in person at 221 Barker Road, Michigan City, IN

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and benefits
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Regional Routes
in IN
1-800-882-7364

PEOPLE SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

Benton Harbor & St Joe area. I am seeking to provide quality care for someone that may need extra assistance to continue living in the comfort of their home. I provide companionship, transportation to appointments, shopping, fun outings, light cleaning, cooking, laundry, help with paying, bathing & much more. Resume upon request. Please call Susan at 470-7779.

ELDERLY CARE

Laporte: Part time care giver for elderly person. Call 219-324-4472. Please leave a message.

FINANCIAL

GARAGE /ESTATE SALES

GARAGE/ESTATE SALES

Laporte: 5332 W 300 N. Wooden boat motor & trailer, Simplicity Mower, John Deer 214, Oak Sideboard, Oak Bookcase, Oak Corner Cabinet, Pine Corner Cabinet, Bakers Rack, Round Rattan table w/4 chairs, Oak Burls. Fri & Sat 9a-3p call for more detail 219-877-7738

Saint Joseph
Estate Sale!!!!
2416 Langley Ave
Friday 11am to 8pm
Saturday & Sunday
9am to 4pm
2 month old
White Whirlpool
side by side
refrigerator, beds,
knick knacks,
housewares lot of
misc!!! Call with
any questions
269-983-7843

MERCHANDISE

AUCTION SALES

Cutler Real Estate Auction: Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015 starting at 3:00 P.M. C.S.T. 327 Cloud St. (just off E. Barker Ave.) Michigan City, IN 46360. Home has 2 bedrooms, front room, kitchen, sun porch, attic, basement, 1 bathroom, large outside barn-shed, huge fenced in yard both front and back, all appliances, has a newer roof that was put on in the last 3-4 years; Updated furnace, pipes, and a newer water heater. This home truly needs an upgraded electrical panel and is ready to move right in - flip it - or rent this baby out! The property is offered "as is" condition. Possession of the home shall be at closing. Terms: $1000 down day of auction, balance due within 30 days or sooner. The taxes will be prorated to day of closing. To view this surprisingly nice property call Mike Moldenhauer at 219-229-0411 or Lisa King at Countywide Realty at 219-608-1950. Owner: Tom (deceased) & Norma Cutler.

MUSICAL MERCHANDISE

A PIANO
FOR CHRISTMAS?
Wurlitzer
Console Piano,
Light Oak. $599 or
Best Offer.
219-210-3834

Stevensville, Concert Guitar for sale, includes case and strap, Excellent Condition, $120, 269-408-0221

SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT

Watervliet MI
Meyer Hydro Turn 7
1/2 ft Snow Plow
blade, complete
with wiring harness
and Frame for a
Dodge truck.
Good shape!
$1500.00 OBO
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SPORTING GOODS

Beat The Crowds & Cold with Lefty's red, black and blue, Gobble Skwak Golf Palooza Xmas Sale! 20% off on Lefty Pro Gift Certificates.
Try the family plan. Three full sets with bags for $99. Lost a club, broke a club, hate a club? Lefty has all things golf! Putters, wedges, irons, woods, hybrids, drivers, carts, bags, shoes $2-$99. Call Lefty for a gift. Consultation appointment 219-873-0858

LA PORTE:
Free Cardio
Fit Plus, (New) A
great Christmas gift
Call 219-362-3645

St Joe- AMMO .22 MAG. $15 box 50. 5.56 62 GR GREENTIP $50 box 150. 269-519-8367

FURNITURE

Michigan City
For sale: wooden round pedestal table with glass top, twin bed with complete wood frame, brand new mattress & box-spring and Ethan Allen dresser with bookcase 219-898-7869

Stevensville-Drexel Heritage Walnut Dining Room Set (Includes China Closet, Table, 4 side chairs and arm chair)$1750, Bassett Pine Armior $300, Basset Pine China Closet $250, Antique French Desk $425, Antique English Desk $350, White Wooden Antique Dresser $350, Call 269-355-4346 for information.

FIREWOOD

Berrien Springs: seasoned firewood, mixed hardwoods $185/full cord. Pick-up, Delivery also available. 269-362-0253

Michigan City
Gently used pop-up
Coleman camper.
New tires,
kitchenette, large
sleeping area, LP
gas bottle included,
$1,399 Call 219-221-0989

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2006 Ski- Doo
Mach Z Snowmobile
Excellent condition,
Clean,
Only 4354 Miles.
$4800.
Call 219-879-0023

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10 minute approval
Phone loan:
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Texas Ruby Red Grapefruit 5lbs/$2.50 & 18lbs/$9. **Sweet Texas Oranges** 5lbs/$3.50 & 18lbs/$12. Honey Crisp Apples .50/lb, $8/half bushel. Other varieties $7 and up. Walla Walla onions $0.35/lb, $15.00/50lbs. Potatoes $5/half bushel, $9.50/50lbs. Sweet potatoes $0.40/lb, $10/half bushel. Corn $3.50/half bushel. Honey 3lbs/$11. Hunky Fruit Stand 2054 M140 Benton Harbor Hours Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 12pm-5pm 269-944-3025

TRANSPORTATION

CAMPERS/ TRAILERS

Michigan City: Gently used pop-up Coleman camper. New tires, kitchenette, large sleeping area, LP gas bottle included, $1,399 Call 219-221-0989

FOR RENT
St Joe - 2 bd condo furn & unfurn
St Joe - 3 bd house
Coloma - 4/5 bd house
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bjparrish14u@aol.com

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Broker/Owner: Kay Barlow Segrave
117 Main Street • Saint Joseph, MI 49085
Office: 269-983-4888
Cellular: 269-470-0138
Aprstjoe.com

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Linde is currently seeking **2 to 5 Local Bulk Drivers** to join the team in LaPorte/New Buffalo, IN. Operations are expanding and our drivers have the ability to make 65K or more the first year.

$2000 SIGN-ON BONUS INCENTIVE

We also offer:
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- High School Diploma or equivalent
- Experience driving tankers and handling cryogenic liquids/hazardous materials a plus

For **IMMEDIATE** consideration, Please apply online to: www.lindejobs.com/us/ Select Job Opportunities and apply to Job ID **909949** or call 219-324-5413 x21

All candidates must pass a DOT physical and drug screen.
EOE, M/F/D/V

Linde North America, Inc.

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The Herald-Palladium

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The Herald-Palladium is looking for contractors who believe in providing outstanding customer service!

Could you use an extra $500-$1000/mo?

A Herald-Palladium route is a great way to supplement your current income!

Must have dependable transportation and insurance.

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1-800-356-4262 ext.387

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

Put the details in place before you branch out on a new venture. Your ideas are valuable, but if you try to rush into something, you may lose time trying to pick up the pieces afterward. Organization and preliminary trials will help you accomplish the most this year.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Don't take on too much; stick to what you do best. Stay on track by keeping up on the latest trends in your field. Your dedicated efforts will lead to success.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Be careful with whom you associate. Keep your financial and legal paperwork up to date so that you do not become overwhelmed at year's end. Avoid dealing with authority figures.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Make the right choice by relying on the lessons you have learned from the past. You will capture everyone's attention if you follow your heart and your instincts.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Curb your spending now, or you may have regrets next year. If you embellish the truth, it will cost you. Be honest about your feelings, and trust your judgment.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Social media will have a positive impact on your plans. Highlight your talents and reach out to people who can utilize and promote what you have to offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You may be asking too much of someone if you depend on them to make you happy. Get out with old friends, who will help you see your personal situation with greater clarity.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You are in for a nasty surprise if you take others for granted. Make sure that there is give-and-take in both your personal and professional relationships.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Don't get anxious about what's happening around you. Adaptability is the key to making change work for you. Trust your instincts and take full advantage of the new circumstances.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Past mistakes or heartaches will leave you depressed. Live in the present and make your future bright. Focus on things and people you enjoy, and you won't have time to look back.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Someone you live with will be demanding. If your patience is wearing thin, find an outlet that will keep you busy. Take care of your personal paperwork.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) An interesting proposal is coming your way. Don't sit idly by, waiting for your situation to change. Get out and help others, and you'll take your mind off of your worries.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Minor accidents are likely if you are distracted or reckless. Don't hesitate to brag. Unless people realize your capabilities and what you have to offer, nothing will develop.

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Fax (269)983-0995
apasillc@sbcglobal.net

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